

THE TIMES

Saturday

In the past nine months sales of personal computers have trebled. Most of them have been bought by men, who comprise 88 per cent of all main users.

Also in the eight-page arts and leisure section: two views of travelling in the Indian sub-continent, from Kashmir to Rajasthan; a guide to the franchise business; and news and views of the coming week's events in the arts.

5 children die in house fire

Five children aged between two and nine died in a fire at their home in Frogmore Avenue, Havens, west London yesterday.

Bank refuses to cut rates

The Bank of England rejected pressures to cut its money market dealing rates, but a half-point cut in bank base rates is thought to be imminent.

Rapid response

Armed police reacted quickly to a Bristol bank raid because they were already deployed elsewhere.

Kissinger link

Dr Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, admitted that he had met a PLO representative privately in Morocco.

Marathon truce

Wheelchair sportsmen have agreed to start half an hour behind the 19,000 runners in the London Marathon on April 10.

Siege ends

A siege in Leeds in which a boy aged 12 had been held hostage ended when a man gave himself up to the police.

Farm price talks

American and EEC officials are trying in Washington to resolve their agricultural trade dispute before next month's meeting of Western heads of states in Virginia.

Feudal schools

Teachers at some small private schools are working under feudal conditions because of fear of unemployment.

Oil slick talks

A ministerial conference called to discuss the huge oil slick in the Gulf began last night after being marred by political wrangling between Iraq and Iran.

Nicaragua doubt

State Department officials are said to be questioning the legitimacy of American involvement in covert military operations against Nicaragua.

Faldo's 70

Nick Faldo, the first of four British golfers to tee off in the US Masters tournament in Augusta, Georgia, was among the early leaders with a two under par first round score of 70.

Leader page 11

Letters: On breakfast TV, from Mr A. Singer, and Mr R. Wortley; nuclear arms, from Lord Gladwyn; sulfbirths, from Mr D. McNaughtan, and Mr C. Hunt.

Table with 2 columns: Page number and Topic (e.g., 21 Motorists, 22 Property, 23 Sale Room, 24 Science, 25 News reports, 26 Sport, 27 TV & Radio, 28 Theatre, 29 Weather, 30 With)

US airline's £99 fare threatens new Atlantic war

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Talks open in London today on a new £99 Atlantic air fare which threatens, over the next two years, to overshadow the old Laker price war.

connections and do not think we will be affected very much." But TWA threatened yesterday to respond with a £270 Apex (21 day advance booking) return for Gatwick to New York this summer.



least 50 per cent by profits on his 60,000 airline shares.

At 34, Mr Pareti is one of the older members of People Express, which uses college students extensively, and one of only nine top executives.

The airline's pilots, qualified and paid like those of any other airline, differ in being called flight managers. They spend three weeks of each month flying and the fourth week on ground administration duties.

On the Atlantic route, its operating costs will be about five cents a passenger mile compared with 9-10 cents for other operators.

People Express is a "worker cooperative" airline that has been operating with huge success at massively reduced fares on US domestic routes since its formation three years ago.

But the UK Government, while fearful of the effect on BA and the fragile profitability of the North Atlantic run generally, will be hard put to oppose the application because it seems to be genuinely cost based.

PanAm was equally guarded, adding: "Because they will be operating from secondary airports we do not think the service will be particularly competitive with our own."



Awaiting take-off: Mr Harold Pareti and one of the People Express aircraft.

France cuts Pretoria sports links

From Diana Geddes Paris

The sharp increase in racism in France is one of the main reasons for the French Government's decision announced yesterday to request all sporting bodies to end links with South Africa.

Exploitation of racist feelings by opposition candidates was very much to the fore during the run-up to the municipal elections last month.

Lawnmower rivals sharpen their blades

By Rupert Morris

The green and pleasant lawns of Britain may become the battleground this summer for a furious confrontation between the two giants of the lawnmowing industry.

BL strikers seek new union lead

By Clifford Webb

The two main unions involved in the strike that has paralysed BL's Cowley assembly plant are under pressure from local union officers and shop stewards to declare the dispute over the company's plan to end the "washing-up time" at the end of each shift official before the loss of pay forces the 5,000 strikers to give in.

The full procedure was followed to the letter during three months of protracted negotiations.

attempt was being made to call a meeting of all the union leaders who signed the "blue newspaper", the 92-page document setting out the new working procedures.

The workforce at Ford's Halewood plant on Merseyside yesterday voted to return to work after a month-long strike in support of a dismissed colleague.



In the swim: The Prince of Wales emerging from the Australian surf after a morning dip near Perth yesterday. Gallant Prince, page 7.

China cuts cultural ties with America

From David Bonavia Peking

China yesterday cancelled all sports and cultural exchanges for the rest of this year with the United States in retaliation for the Reagan Administration's decision to grant political asylum to Miss Hu Na, a Chinese tennis player.

The cuts in exchanges seem designed to attract publicity while having little real effect on China's highest priorities in relations with the United States: the transfer of technology and the purchase of grain.

A large congressional delegation has recently been visiting China and will doubtless bring home fresh views on the Chinese Government's objections to certain US policies.

WASHINGTON: White House officials last night expressed the hope that the dispute with China over Miss Hu would not seriously disturb relations between the two countries, Reuter reports.

Directors expect October election

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A general election in October is regarded by many leading businessmen as the most likely choice of the Prime Minister.

But from its own internal canvass of business opinion, the institute believes that most of the options in the Green Paper will be drawn into the Conservatives' effort to win reelection rather than be implemented by the present Government.

The most strongly favoured date for Britain to go to the polls is still October, which 50 per cent of institute members regard as the most likely runner.

King Husan of Jordan has made it clear that he is not prepared to emulate the late President Sadat of Egypt by negotiating with the Israelis in the absence of Arab support.

The timing of Mr Pym's visit is also significant in view of a projected trip to the Middle East later this month by Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State.

Pym seeks Saudi aid in peace deal

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, will urge Saudi Arabia to help revive President Reagan's faltering Middle East peace plan during his visit to the Gulf which starts today.

Britain believes there is still life left in the Reagan proposals but that the Arabs need to take the initiative in using them as a basis for talks on the Palestinian issue.

The need for some support has become crucial after the disappointing results of talks between King Husan and Mr Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

But the British Foreign Secretary is unlikely to offer any initiative of his own.

Keren to return as deal is struck

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

The Falklands troopship, HMS Keren, which was the subject of a threatened shipping strike, will return to Wallend on Tyneside today, and is expected to be ready to sail to the South Atlantic by the end of next week.

The converted cross-Channel ferry was at the centre of a dispute when the Royal Navy put a crew on board and sailed her into the North Sea last Thursday night.

An agreement reached on Wednesday between the National Union of Seamen and Blue Star line, which will manage her for the Ministry of Defence, means she will leave the Royal Navy and return to the merchant fleet on her return to Tyneside.

Under the agreement, they will have 120 days off a year, compared with the 108 days which Blue Star had envisaged. To keep the ship operational, one-and-a-half crews will be needed, against three full crews under the union's proposals.

It has also been agreed that the number of seamen forming a crew should be increased from the planned 54 to 58 seamen, plus 21 officers and two medical staff.

It was accepted in Whitehall yesterday that because the Keren is a converted cross-Channel ferry and not originally designed for long distance routes, the concessions over days off, (size of crew) and the 428 allowance were justified.

Computer courses programmed for you

If you need to know about computers, you need to know about our highly successful courses. If you've recently installed or are thinking of installing a computer then, no matter what your business, the University of Buckingham runs a course designed to give you maximum benefit from your investment.

Advertisement for The University of Buckingham computer courses, featuring an image of a person at a computer terminal and the university logo.

Deal means Radio Times back

By a Staff Reporter The Radio Times, after losing more than nine million copies because of an industrial dispute, will be available again in a national edition for the week beginning April 16.

Head cleared of assault

A headmaster accused of assaulting nine boy pupils burst into tears at Hamilton Sheriff Court yesterday when he was cleared of all the charges.

Eight remanded on VAT charges

Eight men charged with value-added tax fraud appeared at Harrow Court, in north London, yesterday and were remanded in custody until April 15.

Lim contract for battlefield 'spy'

The Ministry of Defence has awarded a £1m engineering study contract for the Army's new Phoenix robot armoured, designed to spy out enemy positions on the battlefield.

Report on police chief's crash

A Bedfordshire police report on a road accident in which Mr Ian Kane, the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, was involved is to be studied by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

"IT'S NOT THE MONEY, IT'S THE PEACE OF MIND." Mind you, the money is important. With the Abbey Life Family Cover Plan I can look forward to a lump sum on retirement. Meanwhile, however, my family has protection worth up to £50,000.

Family Cover Plan Abbey Life advertisement with logo and details.

Issue of guns to police 'not matching rise in armed crime'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Greater Manchester is unique in its policy of putting armed police to patrol streets in case of crime, a survey of city forces revealed yesterday.

Not even the Metropolitan Police does that, according to its press officer yesterday, though it is known that some London officers are armed to protect diplomats, which is in a different category.

MP asks Whitelaw to clarify police gun law

By John Winder

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham West in Greater Manchester, yesterday wrote to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, asking for an early statement in the Commons to the effect that the arming of the police would not be allowed to proceed further than in strict accordance with the Home Secretary's guidelines of March 22.

Mr Meacher said he was extremely disturbed at the action of Mr James Anderson, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, in putting armed police patrols on the streets and thus taking "a major and unauthorized step down the route towards a permanently armed police, which I do not believe the great majority of the people in this country want."

Foreigners receive strong reply

By Harry Golombek

The results of the adjourned games from the first round of the Charlton Jubilee International Chess tournament were mostly in favour of the foreign opposition. But nevertheless the home players acquitted themselves well against their strong opponents.

Bid to resolve differences in Anglicanism

From Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent, Loughborough

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Eric Kemp, leader of the Anglo-Catholic movement in the Church of England, yesterday offered the opposing Evangelical wing of the church the prospect of talks to attempt to bridge the differences on certain doctrinal matters.

An association statement from its president, Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, said: "Chief constables wish to emphasize that there has been no change in the policy that they have always followed in relation to the issue of firearms to police officers."

The political controversy over Mr Anderson's policy continued as Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, called on Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to take action to reverse the increasing use of firearms by criminals.

Judge backs firearms for police

A judge at the Central Criminal Court yesterday defended the policy of police carrying firearms in the fight against armed criminals.

Mr Terence Walker, chairman of Avon County Council's public protection committee, said: "Police should have ready access to firearms as and when there is good reason to believe that they will encounter armed criminals."

Jobs loss threat to striking steelmen

From Ronald Kerahaw, Sheffield

Ten thousand striking steelworkers in South Yorkshire were warned last night that they face possible short-time working and further job losses if the strike over a demanning exercise involving the introduction of new shift patterns continues.

Owen backs defence ties with US

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Labour Party campaigning aimed at ejecting United States forces from bases in Britain was described as a "horrendous gamble" last night by Dr David Owen, in a speech allying the Social Democratic Party strongly to continuation of the defence link between Britain and the United States.

Financial Times coping with US competition

By Kenneth Gosling

With European sales running at the highest in its history, the Financial Times is feeling the effects of the Wall Street Journal's incursion into Europe.



Mrs Margaret Burns, wife of PC William Burns, who was shot in the mouth after stopping a car with PC Owen Lakes in Bristol.

Hostage tells of 100-mile M4 ordeal

By Michael Hornell

Mr Anthony Hatton, a lorry driver taken hostage at gunpoint in Bristol, spoke yesterday about his 100-mile ordeal. Meanwhile, detectives interviewed a man detained at the city police headquarters and waited at the hospital bedside of another man who was injured by armed officers during a £30,000 bank raid.

The injured man was said to be stable and under sedation at Bristol's Royal Infirmary but a second operation for his gunshot wounds was expected.

Mr Hatton, who was reunited with his wife aged 35, and son aged 10, at their home in Wellingborough yesterday, said he was delivering goods for Cow & Gate at Frenchay hospital, Bristol, and was about to reverse into a yard when he was ordered by a gunman to drive along the M32 and M4 to London.

Det Supt Donald Taylor, who is in charge of the police investigation, said yesterday that evidence was still being considered and charges were not expected until today.

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Speaking in Swindon, Dr Owen deputy leader of the SDP, said that destroying or weakening the physical defence link between the United States and Europe meant that the Soviet Union would become the supreme influence in Europe.

The nature of that accommodation would vary, and while it was most unlikely that the Soviet troops would cross into Nato countries, it would certainly lead to a reappraisal in West Germany as to whether they should look east or west.

Mr John Huey, European managing editor of the Journal, said they had had a favourable reception, especially in banking and brokerage circles.

The half a million offer to give police a vital clue

By Stewart Tisdler, Crime Reporter

That information might arrive before the money was split by the robbers and "tampering" started.

Science report

Developing a vaccine against malaria

By the Staff of Nature

A crucial step towards the development of a vaccine against malaria has been taken at New York University, in the United States. A group of scientists led by Dr Ruth Nussewiz in New York and Dr Nigel Godson at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, have used genetic manipulation techniques to make a protein material carried by the malaria parasite and known to stimulate the body's immune defences against the parasite.

The World Health Organization estimates that two million people die each year from malaria, mostly in developing countries. It is also estimated that as many as 200 million people may be infected with the disease at any time.

The success reported from New York is the culmination of several years of work by Dr Nussewiz and her colleagues. The team has concentrated on the most primitive form of the parasite, known as the sporozoite, the form in which malaria parasites are injected into the bloodstream by infectious mosquitoes.

Correction

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Vertical text on the far right edge of the page.

# £2m paid to islanders in compensation for Falklands war damage

Falklands islanders have been paid more than £2m compensation for damage caused during last year's conflict with Argentina. But, even discounting the effect of the garrison now there, many are finding it hard to return to a normal life.

Some farmers are unable to work their land because it has not yet been cleared of mines, people in the capital, Port Stanley, are still being treated for depression as a direct result of the war, according to a medical expert.

The £2m paid out in compensation covers all but 30 of 561 claims submitted. The claims were for damage to houses and gardens and loss of vehicles, livestock and fences.

Many wooden farm fences were cut down and used as firewood by Argentine soldiers, and huge numbers of sheep and cattle were killed and eaten.

A special team of officers from the Ministry of Defence is on the spot to assess the claims. The farmers who cannot work their land are being paid for loss of earnings.

The anxiety of people in Port Stanley was reported yesterday by Dr Alison Bleaney, senior medical officer at the local hospital.

She said: "Subconsciously the people get a bit anxious when they hear about Argentina being resupplied with weapons and buying frigates. Although British troops are here and the islands are well protected, the war has made people feel insecure. We still get residents

coming in suffering from depression because of the war." But the islanders are still determined to give a good welcome to the families of Servicemen killed in the conflict.

More than twenty children will be offered a day at school. Mr John Fowler, Superintendent of Education in Port Stanley, said: "The idea would be to try to let them see our schools at work and to meet our school children. We would hope to have them in twos or threes in classes throughout the day."

"We are ready to fit in with whatever the visitors want to do. It is their day and we will try to provide whatever they want. Everyone here is hoping to meet the families."

Suggestions that the visit was part of a well planned political exercise were rejected by Conservatives yesterday.

Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Ayrshire South, said the visit would turn out to be a total disappointment and a terrible mistake for the relatives. He said they would be taken aback by the reality of what their relatives had died for.

Mr Foulkes, who went with other members of a Commons select committee to the islands recently, described them as: "The shanty town of Port Stanley, squashed sheep farms and barren islands like many lying half forgotten off the coast of Scotland and many other countries."

Mr John Stokes, Conservative MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said that it was

appalling for Mr Foulkes to use personal grief for political ends.

**Fathers seek news of missing sons**

Two Argentine fathers called on the Foreign Office yesterday to plead for information on their sons, both fighter pilots who were missing during the fighting in the South Atlantic.

But Mr Cranley Onslow, Minister of State, told them he had no more information than that which had already been passed to the Buenos Aires Government through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

He sympathized with them and emphasized that Britain had no quarrel with the people of Argentina. The last Argentine prisoner had been repatriated.

The bodies of 221 Argentine servicemen had been buried in a cemetery at Darwin on the islands, although only 107 had so far been identified.

The three men who saw Mr Onslow yesterday were representing the families of more than 500 young Argentines who were missing during the war and about whom there is no available information in Buenos Aires.

The delegation consisted of Senor Isaias Gimenez, from Parana, Senor Leonidas Ardiles, who is an uncle of the Tottenham Hotspur footballer, Oswaldo Ardiles, and Senor Juan Carlos Legascue, their legal adviser. They were accompanied by Senor Simrano, a Chilean journalist.



New friend: Mr James Chapman, who is deaf, meeting Chum, who will be his "hearing" dog in June. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

## Dogs lend their ears to help the deaf

By Tony Samstag

Just over a year after the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf programme was inaugurated at Crufts Dog Show, the first partly trained animal was introduced to its new owners yesterday.

Chum, a winsome 16-month-old mongrel bitch with more than a touch of black Labrador, made the acquaintance of Mr and Mrs James Chapman, of Newton Abbot, Devon, both of whom are deaf, at a press conference in London launching the annual congress of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association, which opens today.

Among the guest speakers Dean Leo Bastard, professor of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University, in the United States, and one of the pioneers in "pet therapy" for human patients.

The hearing dogs scheme, under the auspices of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf (RNID) is, like the guide dog programme for the blind, only one example of many such "therapies".

The dogs are chosen for their ability to respond to sounds such as a doorbell or an alarm clock, and are trained to alert their owners with visual signals or physical contact. Dean Bastard, explaining the selection of dogs, said mongrels were often the best and some breeds were not suitable at all.

A great dane, for example, was "too laid back. The doorbell rings, he just opens one eye and looks up, thinks 'there's the doorbell' and goes back to sleep." The animals had to be alert, curious and affectionate.

The dog responds to the sounds by

going to the deaf owner, who is alerted by pawing, jumping, tail-wagging or whatever, then led to the front door, cooker or smoke detector. In the case of an alarm clock the dog might jump on the bed to wake the sleeper.

Hearing dogs must respond both to voice and hand signals, the RNID notes, because "many profoundly deaf recipients may enunciate words in a different way from the trainer".

More than 1,500 veterinary surgeons are attending the congress, one of the largest such held in this country. Over the weekend specialists will attend about seventy sessions on a variety of clinical topics from surgery, dermatology and cancer to pair-bonding between humans and their pets, with its implications for human health, particularly among the elderly.

## 13 hurt in hostel bus crash

Nine mentally handicapped schoolchildren and four teachers were injured, one critically, yesterday when their minibus was in a collision with two lorries on the M62 in West Yorkshire.

The accident happened on the westbound carriageway of the motorway at Hopetown, near Pontefract, shortly after the party from the Wakefield Council home at Hemsworth, had set off on a day's outing to Manchester airport.

Five ambulances ferried the injured, some in wheelchairs, to Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield, and Pontefract General Infirmary. A spokesman at Pinderfields Hospital said four adults and six youngsters had been admitted, and one child was critically ill.

Two of the children taken to Pontefract Infirmary were discharged after treatment. A third was later said to be in satisfactory condition.

The children were aged between 7 and 15. Some were day-care youngsters and others permanent residents.

## Two children die in fire

Two children, aged ten and two, died in a fire which badly damaged their home at Penrith Terrace, Ferry Fryston, Castleford, West Yorkshire, yesterday.

A boy aged five leapt from a bedroom window into the arms of another youngster, who was in the back garden and Mrs Jamie Knowles, the children's mother also managed to escape. They were both taken to hospital with shock.

## Lethal drug stolen in raid

Two bottles of Immobilon, a lethal drug, were stolen from a veterinary surgery yesterday.

The drug is an anaesthetic powerful enough to knock out big animals such as elephants and horses, but even a tiny spot on human skin could be enough to kill. It was stolen with thousands of tablets, including phenobarbitone, from Mr Robert Cathcart's surgery in Farnham, Surrey.

## Further remand for Nilsen

Denis Andrew Nilsen, aged 37, of Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill, north London, made his eleventh appearance at Highgate Court yesterday.

Nilsen, a former probationary policeman, accused of murdering Mr Stephen Sinclair, aged 20, at Cranley Gardens, on or about February 1, was remanded in custody, for a week.

## Verdict on gypsy

A jury at Horney's Coroners Court, in north London, returned a verdict of unlawful killing at the inquest into the death of Mr Sidney Winslow, aged 42, a gypsy, who was shot on the Ridgeway, Enfield, in December, 1981, as he was locking up his lorry.

## IRA victim mourners cheer Fitt

From Richard Ford Belfast

Mourners at the funeral of a man killed by the Provisional IRA in mistake for another target clapped and congratulated Mr Gerard Fitt, the independent MP for Belfast, West, yesterday as he left after attending the church service.

Applause broke out from a group of men and women standing outside St Columba's church, on the stomachy "Inayat" Dilnoley Estate, in Bangor, Co Down, where two gunmen murdered Mr James McCormick last weekend.

As Mr Fitt, a Roman Catholic, walked with his bodyguard to a waiting car he was surrounded by a jostling crowd, many of whom wanted to shake his hand.

Women pushed through the crowd to be near the MP, well known for his outspoken criticism of the Provisional IRA, saying: "It needs more people with his guts to speak out."

Others listened to his criticism of the murder by gunmen who burst into the home of Mr McCormick, aged 45, shot his wife and then pumped at least twelve bullets into his stomach and chest. One woman said of Mr Fitt: "He deserves all the credit in the world for coming down here to be with us."

Mr Fitt had slipped quietly into the back of the modern church to join other politicians, including Mr James Kilfedder, Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly, for the short funeral service.

Mr Fitt said afterwards: "This was one of the most brutal murders we have had and what made my blood run cold



Mr Gerard Fitt shaking hands with mourners at the funeral yesterday of Mr James McCormick.

was the sickening apology and the fact that this man's wife was shot. How do they expect people to try to understand all this?

"I felt it was necessary to let the people of this estate see that I and people of my faith would never in any circumstances condone this sort of thing."

Mr McCormick's widow, who is recovering after being shot in the leg during the attack was not at the funeral but his son James,

aged 21, and daughter Anne, aged 19, were among hundreds who crowded into the church and stood outside in the sunshine.

They heard Dr Robin Eames, Church of Ireland Bishop of Down and Drogheda, say: "It has been stated that this murder was a mistake. Let it be clearly spelt out: there can never be any mistake about murder."

Ulster's other face, page 4

## Judges 'praised Narayan' New talks on TV football

Letters from two senior judges praising the courtroom competence of Mr Rudy Narayan, a barrister, were produced yesterday before the Bar Disciplinary Tribunal hearing complaints that Mr Narayan is guilty of professional misconduct.

The letters, from Lord Scarman and Lord Justice Eveleigh, were read to the tribunal, sitting at the Law Courts in London, by Mr Narayan. Lord Scarman had written: "I regard him as a most competent member of his profession."

Lord Justice Eveleigh had written: "I can confirm he has performed his duties in a proper and respectful manner."

Mr Narayan, a defence lawyer, who is also chairman of the organization Black Rights UK, is defending himself against allegations arising out of incidents at the Central Crimi-

nal Court in April last year during the trial of several youths accused of the murder of Mr Terence May.

Mr Narayan is alleged to have accused staff of the Director of Public Prosecutions of being "dirty rats" and "dishonest"; to have accused two of the director's staff of incompetence and dishonesty; to have attempted to read a confidential prosecution notebook without consent; to have publicly accused a detective superintendent of being "a liar"; and to have issued a press statement vilifying the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions in scandalous and contemptuous terms.

The hearing before the five-man tribunal, which has powers to suspend, reprimand or disbar barristers found guilty of professional misconduct, is expected to finish today.

Attempts to resolve the dispute that is threatening to take most football coverage from television screens next season will be resumed today at a meeting between officials of the Football League and television companies.

Mr Cliff Morgan and Mr John Bromley, heads of sport for BBC and independent television, are meeting the league's television subcommittee for the first time since their offer of £5.3m for two seasons' coverage was rejected.

Since then the video company, Telejector has put in a bid of 8m for the rights to show exclusive recorded highlights of most league and domestic trophy matches in public houses and clubs. That offer has been approved by the league-management committee and will go before the chairman at another special meeting on April 26.

Despite Telejector's intervention, the television companies insist that they have no more money to spare for football. They also refuse to broadcast matches involving teams wearing shirt advertising but have met the League's demand for less exposure by offering to show one live match a week.

The television companies are believed to see the league's interest in the Telejector offer as a bargaining ploy rather than a serious proposition. The prospect of moving football highlights from the living room to the public house has provoked many well-publicized objections.

Mr Jack Dunnet, Labour MP for Nottingham, East, and president of the league has said that he would be quite happy to see whether a television blackout would improve attendances.

## Commercial radio milestone

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent local radio, launched 10 years ago, reaches a milestone today with the advertising of its fiftieth franchise.

The closing date for applications for the contract to provide a service covering the Northampton area is July 19.

County Sound, the thirty-ninth commercial radio station to open, began broadcasting from its Guildford studios on Monday. That brought the total coverage of the country by independent radio stations to 80 per cent. An estimated 20 million listeners tune in to the stations in the course of a week.

The next stations to open this year will be at Newport, Gwent, Stoke-on-Trent and Wrexham and Deeside. Others which one expected to open later this year or early next year are Brighton, Maidstone and Medway, Humberston, and Reigate and Crawley. Stations in east Kent and at Great Yarmouth are scheduled for later next year.

In July the BBC opens its thirtieth English local station, Radio York. In Wales the BBC's Radion Gwent starts on April 18. Next week the BBC opens two Scottish stations, Radio Tweed at Selkirk on Monday, and Radio Solway at Dumfries on Friday.

## Guardroom bullying denied

A regimental policeman who is accused of bullying guardroom prisoners said yesterday that stories of ill treatment had been invented because everyone hated service "coppers".

Lance-corporal David Laurence Powell, aged 24, told a court martial at Catterick, North Yorkshire, that he took no part in violent guardroom games and that he was a victim of malice.

Lance-corporal Powell and Trooper Neil Atkin, aged 21, both of the 47th Royal Dragoon Guards, jointly face two charges of common assault.

Lance-corporal Powell faces a further six charges of common assault and one of compelling a senior aircraftman to strike a driver of the Royal Corps of Transport. Trooper Atkin also faces four charges of common assault. They deny all the charges.

Lance-corporal Powell told the hearing that he took no part in a card game called Betsy, which ended with a prisoner being beaten over the head with a clenched fist. He also said: "A regimental horsewife was used in another game in which detainees held a piece of paper, but I never deliberately hit people across the knuckles when that paper became very small."

"The witnesses have concocted a pack of lies, because everyone, especially prisoners, hates regimental policemen," notes regimental policeman. Lance-corporal Powell said he took no pleasure in seeing prisoners inflicting pain on one another. The hearing continues.

## Solicitor told: return files

From Our Correspondent, Bournemouth

Two quarrelling solicitors aired their dispute at Bournemouth County Court yesterday.

Mr Malcolm Edwards, practising in Christchurch, Dorset, claimed that Mr Robert Cooper, his former employee, had walked out with clients' files when he was dismissed last month.

Mr Cooper, aged 48, of The Paddock, Minstead, Hampshire, explained: "I took the documents because I have been dealing with those particular clients for 18 months."

"They specifically asked me to handle their cases. They did not want to be dealt with by Malcolm Edwards. Many of them are at a critical stage in legislation and a change to another solicitor would jeopardize their cases."

Mr Cooper said that he had sold his solicitors firm to Mr Edwards for £15,000 two years ago. He alleged that the firm had defrauded him of some of the money that was owed to him, but he had agreed to hand back the contested files.

After the sale Mr Cooper continued to work as a part-time consultant for Mr Edwards for two years. But he claimed that he had not been paid £20,000 for work he had done during that time.

"Mr Edwards admitted to me in a letter that I should be paid the bulk of my bills. He owes me the money. Therefore if I give back the clients' files I should not have to owe their money to Mr Edwards."

Mr Cooper was ordered to return the removed 30 files by noon today.

## School girls ran shoplifting business

A "Fagin's Ring" of school girls aged 12 and 13 set themselves up in business by shoplifting to order, a court was told yesterday.

They operated the venture on company lines by canvassing for business, receiving written orders, recording the details in duplicating books and issuing receipts after payment, Inspector Richards McCarthy, for the prosecution, told a juvenile court in Guildford, Surrey.

The girls told their customers that they had a contract to supply rejects from big stores, but the court was told that they were going on stealing sprees to keep their enterprise going.

In a statement one girl told how her classmates were asked to write their orders on pieces of

paper and hand them in if they wanted make-up.

The goods would be handed out in the playground and later the customers paid their money, which was recorded in a blue book. They were promised receipts later.

Three girls aged 12 and 13 were each fined £50 after admitting two accusations of shoplifting.

The case against another girl, aged 12, who admitted two shoplifting offences and a third of receiving stolen money, with 42 other offences taken into consideration, was adjourned for social reports.

The case against another girl, aged 12, facing three accu-

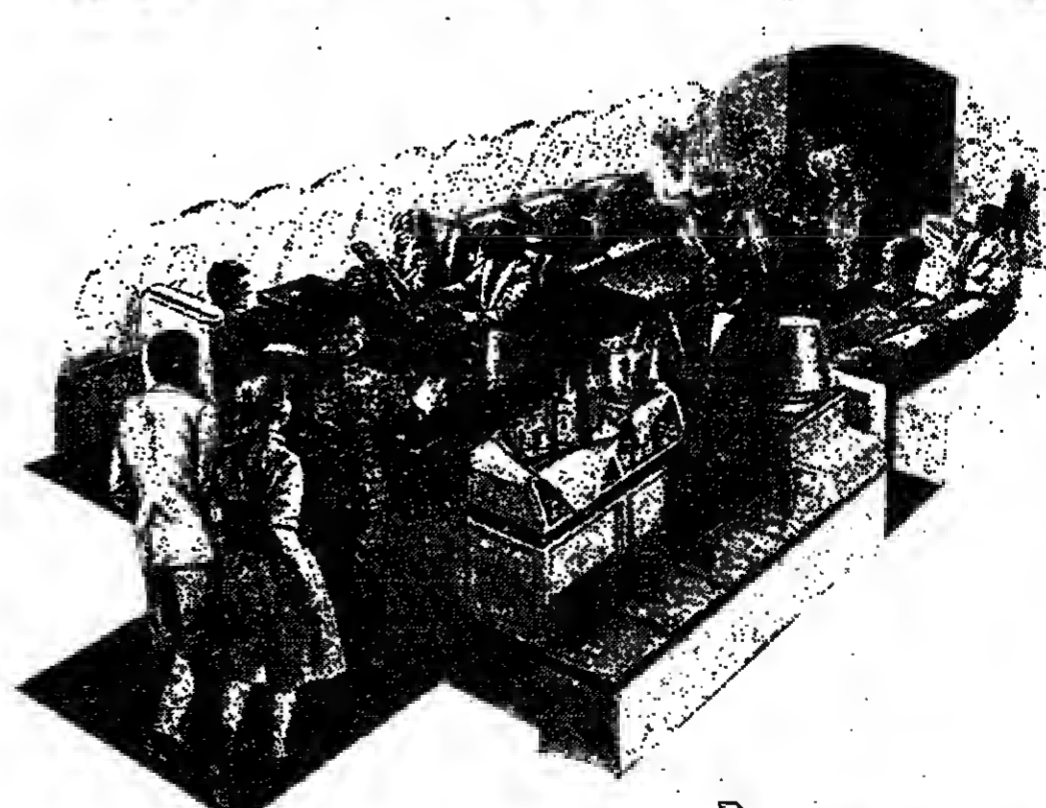
sations of shoplifting, was also adjourned.

Mr David Morgan, the magistrates' chairman, said: "We are appalled by what must be this Fagin's ring that existed in your school. This was organized crime. It was pre-meditated."

"This court is here to protect members of the public such as the shopkeepers from whom you stole. It is a responsibility that this court takes very seriously."

Inspector McCarthy said the girls were caught shoplifting in Fine Fare supermarket, at Millford, Surrey. Police discovered that two of them had been travelling to Godalming, Surrey, to shoplift since the beginning of the year.

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# Teachers in some private schools face feudal conditions, union alleges

From Nick Wood, of The Times Educational Supplement, Birmingham

Some proprietors of private schools are exploiting teachers' fears of unemployment by imposing "feudal" conditions of employment on their staff, an official of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association said yesterday.

"Some independent school proprietors think there is a quick killing to be made by treating teachers badly, paying them badly and sacking them at a moment's notice," Mr Peter Smith, the union's deputy general secretary, said after a debate at its annual conference in Birmingham.

He added: "We had hoped the sort of schools Evelyn Waugh described had disappeared. But they are cropping up everywhere."

Mr Philip Lott, the union's solicitor, said many proprietors were blatantly disregarding the law by not issuing particulars of employment to teachers, or riding roughshod over the provisions of contracts. In other cases they cynically exploited loopholes in contracts agreed with staff.

He said he was dealing with at least one case a week, about five times more than he would expect on the basis of the union's membership in the independent sector. Many cases ended in court.

Mr Lott, who was speaking after the conference had backed a resolution calling on the owners and governors of independent schools to adopt its model contract of employment, said many schools operated a "master/servant" relationship in their dealings with staff.

Teachers were being dismissed for minor offences such as discourtesy, often as a pretext for avoiding redundancy payments. Others were being denied sick pay or retired early by schools seeking to reduce their costs.

He spoke of one small West Midlands boarding school that the union had taken to court four times in the past two years for a range of abuses, including non-payment of a teacher's salary.

He added that proprietors had attempted to dismiss teachers for joining a union. In one school teachers, reporting for work at the beginning of term had been stunned to learn that their hours had been cut

# Left alliance gains ground in NUT

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, St Helier

Signs of a shift towards the left in the traditionally sedate National Union of Teachers, the largest teachers' union, were evident at its annual conference in Jersey this week. While members of the 42-member executive, most of whom are headmasters, complained privately that the union conference was beginning to resemble one held by the National Union of Students, socialist teachers were quietly pleased with their own found support.

The left-wing delegates are organized mainly in the Socialist Teachers Alliance, which has two members on the executive and is more sophisticated in policy and tactics than Rank and File, the body it supplanted.

It had about 500 members, supplied 140 of the 2,000 delegates at the conference, and gained 70 new members this week. Its discourse, held on Wednesday night, was considered by those aged under 40 to be the most successful social event of the conference.

The executive, a moderate grouping of old-fashioned trade unionists, is going to find the alliance hard to dislodge, said Rank and File. It is sensible where Rank and File was often silly and soft spoken where Rank and File was truculent, it is also united.

In the past the left has been effectively dismissed at the union's conferences. That is almost bound to change. However, how long it will take to assert itself is open to question. Mr Bernard Regan, an alliance

# Wilderness consortium loses trust's support

From Our Correspondent, Dumnoon

An uncertain future faces Knoydart Estate in the Scottish Highlands, one of Britain's last remaining wildernesses after the National Trust for Scotland announced yesterday that it was to withdraw from a public trust which had been set up to buy the 52,000-acre estate for the nation.

"The trust has decided with much regret not to recommend the National Heritage Memorial Fund to provide cash for the purchase of Knoydart", a statement said.

The memorial fund had offered to provide the £2,500,000 purchase money, but the trust said it could not undertake responsibility for the £100,000 annual running costs.

It now wants Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, to convene a national conference to discuss options for land of national significance to be acquired for the nation.

The consortium was set up after the Ministry of Defence expressed interest in acquiring the estate as an infantry training area.



How the mighty are fallen: The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, galloping past the saluting base at Hyde Park, London, after the annual inspection yesterday. The spectacle was spoiled for one trooper (bottom left) who fell, but he later recovered his horse and made a dignified exit (bottom right). Photographs by Bill Warhurst.

# Truce gives wheelchairs their own marathon

By Michael Coleman

An uneasy truce was declared yesterday between the organizers of the London Marathon, the Greater London Council and 21 handicapped wheelchair "runners".

Faced with the G.L.C.'s threat to withdraw its £100,000 support if the wheelchair people were banned, the organizers reached a hasty compromise, so that there will, in effect, be two races on Sunday, April 17. Both will be starting at Greenwich Park and end on Westminster Bridge.

The first, at 9.30 am will be the Gillette London Marathon proper, with up to 19,000 participants. Half an hour later the wheelchair sportsmen will push off. "It will basically be a Gillette Wheelchair London Marathon", Mr Christopher Brasher, the race director, said.

The races must be separate because some of the wheelchairs could touch 30mph on a downhill stretch while many of the runners would be doing about six mph.

He agreed that wheelchairs and runners did not get tangled up in races abroad, but said they would in London, with the narrow roads and many participants.

G.L.C. officers, officials of the British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD) and two wheelchair athletes welcomed the compromise.

But Mr Anthony Banks, chairman of the G.L.C. arts and recreations committee, admitted that councillors were not satisfied with the truce, but since the BSAD had accepted it there was little more they could do.

"Clearly we had to go along with it. We accept this formula. I will be reporting back to my Labour group, because I was empowered to pull out if not satisfied. Next year we must make a rule that there is also a wheelchair section in the London Marathon." He added, however, that he was not making a 12-month threat.

When questioned further about what would happen next year, Mr Ilydd Harrington, the G.L.C. deputy leader, retorted: "We don't even know if Mrs Thatcher or Mr Andropov will let us be here next year."

# Warning on violence in schools

Weakness shown by head teachers could lead to American-style police in schools to combat growing violence, a teachers' conference was warned yesterday.

Some headmasters were brushing classroom crime under the carpet, Mr Philip Jenkins told the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers in Eastbourne. "This is a most serious situation and can only get worse", Mr Jenkins, aged 59, a Kent teacher, said.

Violence in American schools, where classrooms are patrolled by security guards, was frightening, "and it could so easily happen here, if we do not stand together", he said. But not enough head teachers stood by staff in taking action against the schoolboys.

Delegates voted to discuss the issue in private session, but after the debate Mr Jenkins gave details of his speech to the conference. Increasingly there were examples of "rank bad management" and glaring lack of support for teachers.

"This is not a head teacher-bashing exercise", Mr Jenkins said. "Most do a good management job, having regard to the difficult circumstances facing us in schools today."

However, there were more and more complaints from teachers who were being subjected to "unreasonable demands" and "pressures" from head teachers, Mr Jenkins said. The most serious area of weak management was probably failure to support teachers who were victims of school tuggery. That created ill feeling and a lack of the team spirit necessary for a successful school.

Another area of bad management was a "blatant attempt" by some head teachers to hully staff into undertaking extra duties, such as supervising school meals, prolonged staff meetings after school and numerous parents' evenings.

Members of the union were accused of telling "monstrous untruths" about the number of assaults on them in schools.

"Women teachers were guilty of 'serious misleading the public'... STOPP, the pressure group dedicated to banning corporal punishment in schools, said at a press conference. The "blackboard jungle", where teachers went in fear of being beaten by pupils, did not exist.

# Sharp rise in work for defence

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Work on defence projects by the Government's Property Services Agency rose sharply last year and a further big increase is expected this year. The agency is a civilian body with a labour force of 28,000, which designs and manages government buildings.

Mr Montague Alfred, its chief executive, refused yesterday to name any of the projects which accounted for the rise of 20 per cent in the value of work done on defence contracts in the financial year just ended.

"I do not want to select items at random", he said at a press conference in London to mark publication of the agency's annual report. "I am not being unduly cagey, but we do have to be careful with what we say."

The report shows that work on defence contracts for the Services, Ministry of Defence, Nato and the United States Air Force totalled £674m in 1982/83 and rose to £741m in 1981/82. The agency said that the total for 1982/83, which is not in the report, was £890m.

Defence work on projects worth at least £100,000 is expected to rise from £293m in 1982/83 to £470m in the financial year that has just begun.

Most of the agency's defence work was done in Britain. In 1982/83 it finished defence contracts worth at least £1m, including an £18m rebuilding of the Army apprentice college at Arborfield, Berkshire.

The agency said that it had also completed 12 blast-hardened aircraft shelters at RAF Honington, Suffolk, in 1981.

Annual Report 1981/82 (PSA Library, Whitehall Centre, Wellesley Road, Croydon, Surrey).

# Province woos the tourists

From Richard Ford, Belfast

This year the board hopes to attract 750,000 tourists, many from the Continent, where Northern Ireland's bad news is no longer reported daily.

Northern Ireland's lake district, in Co Fermanagh, is an obvious attraction; the spectacular Antrim coast and Mourne mountains are others.

Belfast City Council is also advertising in the republic to attract southern shoppers to the North at weekends to take advantage of a wide variety of cheaper goods.

The Industrial Development Board, in addition, is to try to counter the bad image abroad after market research disclosed that the province's good productivity, labour relations and road infrastructure were not perceived by industrialists.

A recent MORI poll indicated that Ulster was nineteenth on a list of 20 West European locations considered desirable.

Belfast is doing its bit and in the past 18 months city centre streets have lived up at night, after years when people batted down the hatches and stayed at home after the bombers had driven them away.

Late night shopping each Thursday, with people being allowed to park their cars within the security barrier, has proved a success, with the main stores increasing their turnover by 6 per cent.

The restored Grand Opera House is now firmly on the touring circuit. Some stars and technicians are still reluctant to cross the water, but visits by singers such as Joan Armatrading and Elkie Brooks and the pop group Status Quo spread the message among the show-business world.

Of course there is still a security problem, but the soldiers are less in evidence than they were a few years ago. In many places in Belfast, including shops, people are given brief body searches, but outside the city even that inconvenience is often dispensed with.

In areas such as the Falls Road or the Shankill Road, of course, the public houses and clubs are often surrounded by heavy steel grilles.

But a tourist need never see side of Northern Ireland.

Leading article, page 11

# Nuclear war plan for West London

By Rupert Morris

Mass graves in west London parks, the turning of schools into refuge camps, requisitioning of shops, conscription and starvation are among the horrific effects of a nuclear attack detailed in a war emergency plan for Hammer-smith, London, published yesterday by the Shepherds Bush branch of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

The Hammersmith war plan, on display in Shepherds Bush library, describes how a nuclear attack would devastate the area, killing most of the inhabitants.

Surveys have been carried out for the siting of mass graves in public parks, including Harrington Park, Ravenscourt Park, Eelbrook Common and Wormwood Scrubs. Detailed lists of equipment, including quicklime and rat poison, have been prepared.

Survivors would be conscripted to transport bodies, probably in wheelbarrows, the

# Coastguard defended over Penlee action

From Our Correspondent, Penzance

Mr Robbie Roberts, the coastguard district controller, would have been open to severe criticism had he initiated a distress operation earlier on the night when the Penlee lifeboat and the 1,400-ton coaster Union Star were lost, the fifth day of the inquiry at Penzance was told yesterday.

Captain Peter Harris, the coastguard regional controller, told Mr Geoffrey Brice, QC, for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, that the master of the Union Star might not have left people leave the ship had the lifeboat arrived earlier. "There is every reason to think we might have been under criticism for acting contrary to the understood intentions and wishes of the master", he added.

Mr Brice asked if Mr Roberts had interpreted his duties in more restricted fashion than the coastguard would have wished. Captain Harris did not think Mr Roberts had.

The inquiry continues today.

# Cells for sale

From Our Correspondent, South Wales

A stone-built police station more than a century old and with sergeants' desk and two cells is for sale in Llantrisant, in Mid Glamorgan, because it is no longer needed by South Wales police.

# Court of Appeal

## When exclusion clause has no effect

**Toy Line AB v Alltrans Group of Canada Ltd**  
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dillon and Sir Denis Buckley.  
[Judgment delivered March 30]

The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments considered the scope of clause 13 of the *Baltique* charterparty and allowed an appeal by owners, Alltrans Group of Canada Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Bingham on January 20, 1982 (*The Times*, January 25, 1982; [1982] 1 Lloyd's Rep 617) who had held, *inter alia*, in favour of the charterers. Toy Line AB, that the umpire had come to the correct conclusion on the effect of the clause.

Clause 13 of the *Baltique* form provides: "The owners only to be responsible for delay in delivery of the vessel or for delay during the currency of the charter and for loss or damage to goods on board if such delay or loss has been caused by want of due diligence on the part of the owners... in making the vessel seaworthy and fitted for the voyage or any other personal act or omission or default of the owners... The owners not to be responsible in any other case for damage or delay whatsoever and howsoever caused..."

Mr Bernard Rix, QC and Mr Michael Tugendhat for the owners; Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr Stephen Tomlinson for the charterers.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal concerned the scope of clause 13 of the *Baltique* charterparty.

The owners chartered a roll-on roll-off vessel to the charterers on the *Baltique* form.

The description of the vessel, normally contained in lines 2-4 of the party, were struck out and instead the parties agreed upon a typed clause 26 which dealt with all the matters contemplated by the struck-out print and a large number of other details.

Among the additional details were certain measurements including the free height of the main deck which was shown as being 6.10 metres. In fact, in frame 19, the free height was only 6.02 metres or about 2in less than described.

The charterers found that they were unable to load the vessel in the way which they had intended, namely with two 40ft containers one on top of the other and the pair on a trailer.

Their claim for loss and damage consequent upon that breach of the warranty of description given by the owners was referred to arbitration and the owners relied upon clause 13 by way of defence.

The umpire was a highly experienced marine arbitrator, Mr Alan H. Kent, whose recent death had been a great loss to London marine arbitration. He held that clause 13 had no application.

The owners had appealed to the High Court by leave of the judge who reached the same conclusion as the umpire. Mr Justice Bingham had certified that the question of law in issue was one of general public importance and gave leave to appeal. The sole issue was whether the second sentence of clause 13 provided the owners with a defence.

In the *Charalambos N Pateras*, (1972) 1 WLR 74, 76, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that the opening words of clause 13 excluded liability for the four types of delay, loss or damage specified in the first sentence, when not due to the default of the owners or their manager.

It was tempting to construe the second sentence of clause 13 in reverse, so that it was confined to delay and loss or damage to the goods, but in the light of the phrase "whatsoever and howsoever caused" it was not possible to do so.

Nor could one limit the scale of clause 13 by applying what was sometimes called "the four corners rule". The "four corners" appeared to embrace the whole of the contractual obligations of the owners to the charterers.

His Lordship saw the force of the argument, accepted by the judge, that the parties must have intended clause 26, as a specially added clause, to have some effect. The owners overstated the effectiveness of clause 26 if it was subject to clause 13; for however much the owners or their manager might be personally at fault, they would only be liable in the charterers if delay or loss or damage to goods on board resulted.

That gave clause 26 some scope since misdescription could produce delay or damage to goods and it would also leave a right of rejection. Further, although it was not an act to construction, the charterers would remain free, in appropriate cases, to avoid clause 13 under the Misrepresentation Act.

If the argument which appealed to the judge was to be accepted it would follow that all the added clauses took effect free of clause 13, which seemed an impossible construction. The appeal should be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON, agreeing, said that in the absence of a statutory relieving provision, clear words, even in a widely drawn exceptions clause, must be given their natural meaning. *Photo Production Ltd v Securix Transport Ltd* (1980) AC 827. In construing the charterparty the court would have in mind the observations of Mr Justice Wright in *Isras (Owners) v F. W. Dahlstrom and Co* (1931) 1 KB 246, 252-253.

His Lordship would hold that the owners were protected by clause 13 against liability to damages for breach of the warranties in clause 26.

Sir Denis Buckley agreed. Solicitors: Clyde & Co, Inglewood Brown Bannison & Garrett.

# Law Report, April 8, 1983

## Reasons required for personal searches

**Brazil v Chief Constable of Surrey**  
Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice McNeill.  
[Judgment delivered March 29]

A police officer was not acting in the execution of her duty when carrying out a search of a defendant on the basis that everyone brought to the police station had to be searched for her to be searched, requiring a person to submit to a personal search, in ordinary circumstances a police officer should inform the person of the reasons for the search.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an appeal by way of case stated against two convictions under section 5(1) of the Police Act 1964 of assaulting a police officer in the execution of duty.

Miss Gayle Hallon for the defendant; Mr Inigo Bing for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that police officers were called to a public house to eject the defendant. The defendant refused to leave and was arrested for conducting herself in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace.

At the police station, the defendant complied with a request

to empty her handbag and pockets. When she was then informed that everyone brought into the police station had to be searched for their own safety she struck the constable with her handbag.

Following that assault, a constable again explained that it was necessary for her to be searched. The defendant refused to cooperate.

The officer in charge formed the view that she was in possession of prohibited drugs and gave orders for the defendant to be searched. The second assault occurred when the defendant was then forcibly searched.

The justices convicted the defendant of two charges of assault and the defendant now appealed by way of case stated.

Dealing with the first assault, and applying the principles laid down in *Lindley v Rutter* ([1981] QB 128) a blanket rule that everyone brought to a police station had to be searched could not be upheld. The constable did not address her mind to the circumstances of the particular case and whether it was sensible to carry out a search. The officer was not acting in the execution of her duty when proposing to carry out the search.

Turning to the second assault, it was argued on behalf of the defendant that since a search

# Divisional Court

## Sentencer not bound

However, there might well be circumstances when it was not necessary to give reasons, for example, when it was obvious why a search was necessary or where the circumstances were such that it would be impractical to inform or communicate the reasons.

Since an explanation should have been given as to why a search was necessary and the defendant was not informed that the officer in charge had formed the view that she was in possession of drugs, the searching officer was not acting in the course of her duty.

Accordingly the convictions had to be quashed and the appeal allowed.

Mr Justice McNeill agreed. Solicitors: Day Whatney & Co, Godalming, Wotton & Sons.

Decisions on sentencing were often useful as an aid to uniformity of sentence for a particular category of crime but they were not binding authorities in the sense that decisions on points of substantive law were binding. Lord Justice Dunn (sitting with Mr Justice Michael Davies and Mr Justice French) held in the Court of Appeal

# Uproar as Mauroy wins confidence vote on austerity measures

From Diana Coedee, Paris

Despite evident disquiet among many Socialist MPs over the Government's new austerity measures and the expression of strong reservations by the Communists, the Government comfortably won its motion of confidence in its policies early yesterday by 323 votes to 155 as its supporters closed ranks in the face of a virulent attack by the Opposition.

An enabling Bill to permit the Government to introduce many of its more controversial austerity measures by decree, without need of recourse to Parliament, is due to go before MPs on Monday. The procedure, which the Government says is necessary in the interest of speed, will block debate and prevent the formation of any amendments.

The Communists, who had hoped to get the Government to accept many of their "improvements", designed to increase the taxation of the rich in order to lighten the burden on the less well-off, have already expressed strong opposition to the use of enabling legislation. They have threatened not to vote for the Bill if their proposed amendments are not taken into consideration.

M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, in a one-and-a-half hour speech to Parliament in which he tried to set the Government's new policies in the context of an overall "grand design", based on a three-part industrial, social and cultural strategy, failed to convince sceptics or appease critics. It is considered unlikely to result in the hoped-for "mobilization" of the French people.

The unions are clearly unhappy about the new measures which they believe will result in a lowering of workers' standards of living and an increase in unemployment. The independent Force Ouvrière said that the Government had "already gone too far", while the white-collar CGC spoke of its "deep disappointment" over M Mauroy's "empty speech", which contained only "hollow boasts and bombastic phrases".

Employers, who have remained exempt from the increased taxes and levies in the Government's new measures, have been no less critical, believing that the Government should have lightened their existing financial burden.

Parliament was suspended for 20 minutes late on Wednesday night during the debate on the confidence motion after Socialist and Communist MPs walked out en masse to protest against the insults directed against M Mauroy by M Robert-André Vivien, spokesman for the Gaullist RPR group in the National Assembly.

"We were expecting a Prime Minister", M Vivien said. "We found a buffon, a manipulator, a trickster, a conjuror." When M Vivien resumed his speech 20 minutes later, he found the Government's benches empty except for the leaders of the Socialist and Communist groups.

Soon, a new row flared up, this time provoking the mass exit of the Opposition MPs, when M Guy Ducolone, leader of the Communist group in the National Assembly, asked M Vivien if he were a "mercenary of a thug".

In the ensuing uproar, M Ducolone quoted an article by M Vivien in which he allegedly said: "Ducolone and I have a good relationship. But in the interests of France I would be ready to cut his throat tomorrow, though I would do it with regret."

# Bonn seeks location of missing dioxin waste

Berne (Reuters) - Switzerland yesterday asked the chemical company Hoffmann-La Roche to tell the West German Government the location of two-tonnes of toxic dioxin waste earth.

Last year the shipment of earth contaminated with dioxin, which is 10,000 times more toxic than cyanide, was moved from Italy to France, from where Bonn said it was then sent to an unidentified neighbouring country.

Mr Alphonse Egli, the Swiss Interior Minister, has written to the Basle-based company recommending that it grant Bonn's request for information. Hoffmann-La Roche has refused to give the location of the shipment, which resulted from an explosion in 1976 at a plant of one of its subsidiaries in Seveso, northern Italy.

Bonn asked the Swiss to put pressure on Hoffmann-La Roche, but Bern was only able to recommend that the company supply the information, a Swiss Government spokesman said.

Police in Bonn were yesterday questioning a West German firm about the contaminated shipment's disappearance.

# Restraint on press visits to Soweto

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Foreign journalists here have been told that they will have to seek special permission from the South African authorities every time they wish to visit Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg, during the month of June.

Normally foreign journalists are given a renewable three-month permit by the West Rand Administration Board which entitles them to enter Soweto "for the sole purpose of news coverage" at any time between 6 am and 6 pm.

Mr V. Miloe, the administrative director of the board, told *The Times* that "unfortunately there is an abnormal situation in Soweto at that time of the year, and we want to avoid problems and any danger to persons that might arise."

Mr Miloe said that whether or not access to Soweto would be granted during June would depend "on the situation in Soweto itself" as well as the person and organization making the request for the visit. He said that the same restrictions would also apply to local journalists.

In recent years there have often been demonstrations and protest meetings in Soweto on or near June 16, the day in 1976 when a march by 20,000 Soweto schoolchildren in protest against the compulsory use of Afrikaans in secondary schools started a year or more of riots which left an estimated 660 people dead across the country.

The Government's move is evidently an attempt to deny publicity to such manifestations in future.

# Nkomo son released from prison

Harare (Reuters) - The son of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe Opposition leader, has been freed from jail where he had been held since his father fled the country, a Government spokesman said yesterday.

He said Mr Tulani Nkomo, aged 25, had been held on suspicion of having helped his father leave the country illegally on March 8. Mr Joshua Nkomo had clambered across a border fence into Botswana, saying Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, had ordered him to be killed.

Mr Joshua Nkomo's wife, daughter and son-in-law were also detained. The women were released after a few days, but Mr John Ndlovu, the son-in-law, is still in jail. Mr Joshua Nkomo has been in Britain for the past month.

Also released yesterday was Mr Sidney Malunga, a member of Parliament for Mr Nkomo's opposition Zapu party, who had been detained for a month for questioning on possible security offences, the government spokesman said.

Mr Malunga was detained when Troops swooped on the Mtshiseland provincial capital of Bulawayo at the beginning of March in a drive against rebels.

Mr Ian Smith says he will use his new British passport to travel to South Africa for medical treatment as soon as possible, Stephen Taylor writes.

"I have been needing treatment outside the country for three months but have not been able to travel without a passport," the former Rhodesia Prime Minister said from his farm in central Zimbabwe.

"I will not waste time now."

# King to discuss Spain's abortion Bill with Pope

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

King Juan Carlos of Spain is to have an audience today with the Pope at which, according to reports here, he will explain his position over the Socialist Government's plans to legalize abortion under certain circumstances.

The King, who reigns under the 1978 democratic constitution, has been publicly "re-minded" by some of the more conservative Spanish bishops of an alleged duty as a Catholic monarch not to give his assent to an "immoral law".

Publicly, the purpose of the brief royal trip to Rome is said to be to express the Spanish people's gratitude for the Pope's exhausting 10-day official visit last autumn, an apparently unnecessary gesture in view of the exchanges of messages of thanks sent immediately afterwards.

A campaign around the Socialist Bill, now before Parliament, has been mounted by conservative Spanish Catholics, after the Pope's vigorous condemnation in Madrid of abortion under all circumstances.

Mgr José Guerra Campos, the Bishop of Cuenca, who is well known for his right-wing sympathies and is one of the leaders of the anti-abortion campaign, publicly told the King in a pastoral letter a few weeks ago that he would be responsible with the Govern-

ment if he "sanctioned" the abortion law.

"Catholics who occupy public posts and who promote or facilitate the commission of the crime of abortion will not be able to escape the moral qualification of public sinners", he declared.

He also warned any Catholics supporting abortion in any way that they risked excommunication and maintained they had a moral duty to defy a "tyrannical Government" if it passed a law offensive to God.

King Juan Carlos, according to the report, will reiterate in the Vatican that he is not personally responsible under the constitution for any acts of the Government and that as a good Catholic he personally does not encourage such a law.

The Cuenca bishop's broadcast, front-paged by *El Alcazar*, the Madrid right-wing daily, was an embarrassment to less traditional elements of the Spanish church, overstepping the limits separating church and state.

Mgr Gabino Diaz Merchan, chairman of the Spanish bishops' national conference, on Wednesday emphasized at Navarra University that the church neither could, nor should, identify itself with political or social systems.

Church sources here believe the King's position is well understood by the Vatican.



Police hunt: Close custody for one of about 3,500 people who demonstrated against Reagan policies when the US President visited Pittsburgh

# Russia warns Asean on aid to rebels

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

As the United States promised yesterday to accelerate deliveries of arms to Thailand which is engaged in a serious border conflict with Vietnam, the Soviet Union issued a warning that Hanoi would begin giving aid to insurgencies in South-East Asia if countries there continued to support anti-Vietnamese guerrillas in Cambodia.

Mr Mikhail Kapitsa, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, made a threat to Mr Sinnathamby Rajaratnam, the Singapore Deputy Prime Minister, during a three-day visit, according to a Singapore Government statement.

Mr Rajaratnam dismissed the threat as propaganda and pointed out that the subversive groups in Asean (Association of South-East Asian Nations) were "pro-Chinese not pro-Hanoi".

General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, disclosed yesterday that the United States had promised to accelerate deliveries of advanced fighter-bomber intercept aircraft, tanks, anti-aircraft guns and anti-tank missiles.

Mr Paul Wolfowitz, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, who is visiting Thailand, told journalists in Bangkok that some arms might be flown to Thailand, which procures most of its American weapons on favourable credit terms.

General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, the army commander-in-chief, said that all Vietnamese troops who had intruded into Thailand during the past week, had been driven back across the border. He said that a second air strike on Wednesday forced back about 60 Vietnamese soldiers who crossed the border with several Soviet-built tanks.

Mr Wolfowitz, after visiting the border area, condemned Vietnam's "deliberate and indiscriminate attacks against women and children and refugees inside Thailand". He said that the Vietnamese were shelling the refugees even after they entered Thailand.

Vietnam, he added, was trying to achieve a military solution which would allow it to continue its occupation of Cambodia.

Mr Wolfowitz said that the United States would go on confining its support for anti-Vietnamese groups of Cambodians to humanitarian aid. Anything more would not be helpful in the quest for a political solution.

In the first criticism by a national figure of Thailand's policy on Cambodia, General Kriangsak Chomanan, the former Thai Prime Minister, last night urged the Thai Government to drop its support for the Cambodian anti-Vietnamese coalition Government and adopt a strictly neutral policy.

General Kriangsak, who leads the opposition National Democratic Party, said that the present policy had no hope of success.

Involvement in the military conflict in Cambodia should be only "a last resort for national defence".

● HANOI-Vietnam has no more than 10,000 people detained in reeducation camps, well below the 20,000 to 50,000 reported by Western news media and human rights groups, Mr Phan Hien, the Justice Minister, said here.

Mr Phan also denied that any American soldiers who had fought in the Vietnam war remained in the country, either as prisoners or voluntarily, AFP reports.

In an interview Mr Phan said that the number of detainees would continue to fall as an "on-the-spot" reeducation policy was to be introduced for minor offenders which would limit the number of new admissions to the camps.

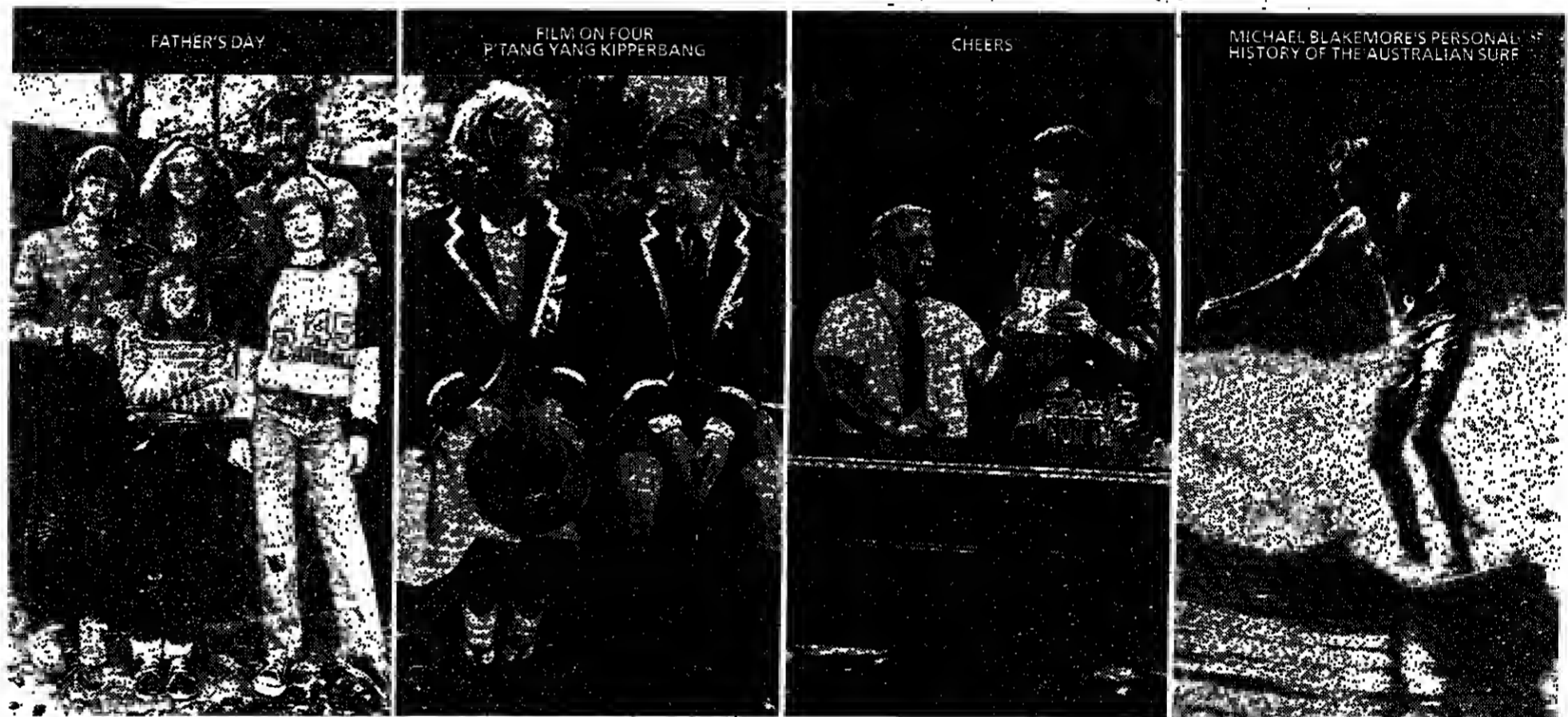
# Kidnap victim freed unharmed

From Our Correspondent, Madrid

One of the two businessmen kidnapped last month by terrorists returned unharmed to his home in the northern city of San Sebastian, early yesterday while more than 1,000 police continued an unprecedented search for the other hostage in one of Madrid's most densely populated areas.

Bearded and wearing the same clothes as when he was abducted 17 days earlier, Señor Jesus Guibert rang the doorbell of his home at about 2 am. He told his family he had been held prisoner in a cave and was led blindfolded on foot for about an hour to a road near the coastal town of Zarauz late on Wednesday. From there he hitchhiked to San Sebastian.

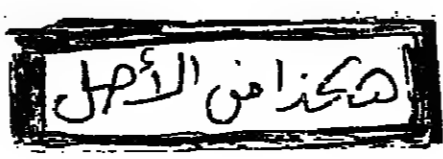
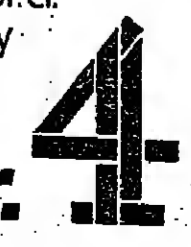
The wide search in Madrid's Barrio del Pilar district, which was reported to involve 1,123 members of the various police forces, began on Wednesday.



# If you liked what you saw last night you should see what's coming.

- MONDAYS AT 9.00 'VIETNAM':** A 12-part documentary of which the Times said: "It is a tough film. Contrasting with the bizarre complexities of the politics is the random simplicity of a cyclist spattered scarlet on the streets of Phnom Penh by a Khmer Rouge rocket."
  - MONDAYS AT 10.00 FROM 18th APRIL, 'ST. ELSEWHERE':** Humour from the Boston hospital you wouldn't want to be a patient in, unless you want to die with laughter.
  - TUESDAYS AT 8.30, 'SWALK':** The growing-up drama of gawky Amanda who seems to prefer fantasy to reality. With Prunella Scales.
  - THURSDAYS AT 8.00, 'THE OPTIMIST':** Six silent funnies about sporting Nigel, who always manages to get the gorgeous girl.
  - THURSDAYS AT 9.30, FROM 28th APRIL, FILM ON FOUR:** The British cinema is alive and well as you'll see. Starting with 'Angel' set in Ireland. Then 'Moonlighting', 'First Love - Secrets', produced by David Puttnam, 'Nelly's Version', 'Walter and June', 'Living Apart Together', 'Ill Fares the Land', 'Red Monarch', 'Bad Sister' and the critically acclaimed 'Draughtsman's Contract'.
  - FRIDAYS AT 10, 'CHEERS':** If you didn't see it last night see it now, the American bar-room comedy.
  - SATURDAYS AT 11.00, THE 'LATE CLIVE JAMES SHOW':** With Clive James persuading his guests to talk on screen the way they do off it.
  - SUNDAYS AT 8.15, 'TELL THE TRUTH':** A quiz show hosted by Graeme Garden, and guests like Peter Cook and Willie Rushton.
  - SUNDAYS AT 8.45, 'FATHER'S DAY':** Starring John Alderton as the parent baffled by his family.
  - SUNDAYS AT 9.15, 'BRIDESHEAD REVISITED':** The most lavish British TV production ever, the classic story of an aristocratic family in decline.
- These are just a sample of the programmes on offer. For films, dramas, documentaries, dance, comedy and sport - tune into Channel 4.

# See for yourself on Channel Four.



# State Department raises doubt on legality of Nicaragua involvement

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

High-ranking State Department officials have raised questions about the legality of American involvement in covert military operations against Nicaragua, according to a front-page *New York Times* story yesterday.

In another front-page story the newspaper disclosed that according to a highly-classified document, President Reagan had approved a policy last April aimed at preventing a "proliferation of Cuba-model states" in Central America that could threaten the US military and economic interests. Officials made no immediate comment on either of the two stories.

Despite strong misgivings by many Congressmen, the Reagan Administration has been extremely tight-lipped about reports that the US is giving covert aid to counter-revolutionaries operating from bases in Honduras.

The officials have said repeatedly that it is not the practice of American governments to comment on supposed intelligence matters. But they have said publicly that the Reagan Administration is not helping to overthrow the Sandinista Government.

American is barred by law from taking any action "for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua".

One of the *New York Times* stories said that top policy makers and legal experts in the State Department had claimed that contrary to law and to agreed Administration policy, guerrilla actions in Nicaragua supported by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the US

ist guerrilla group is receiving arms and supplies through officially neutral Costa Rica in preparation for a promised offensive against the Nicaraguan Government, Martha Honey writes.

While mystery still shrouds the incident, it is known that late on Monday night a helicopter full of arms landed on a road just south of Los Chiles on the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border. The helicopter belongs to a Costa Rican-based company run by Nicaraguan refugees. Two Nicaraguans, a pilot and a Miskin Indian from Nicaragua's Atlantic coast, were detained and are being held under heavy security in San Jose.

When confronted with this information, a member of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), a Costa Rican-based anti-Sandinista movement stated: "Unfortunately it (the helicopter) was working for us." Asked about the arms being replied: "Now we're getting help from a friendly country."

Other ARDE sources denied any knowledge of the helicopter.

● **MANAGUA:** Gunmen, believed to be a right-wing death squad, shot dead Señora Medida Amaya Montes, a Salvadoran woman guerrilla leader, in a hail of bullets at a house near the Nicaraguan capital.

Señora Amaya Montes, known as Comandante Ana Maria, was second-in-command of the Popular Liberation Force (FPL), one of the five guerrilla groups fighting the American-backed Government in El Salvador.



Allan Goodman, an American-born Israeli soldier, raises his manacled hands after being escorted to life imprisonment by a Jerusalem court yesterday for the murder of a Muslim guard while shooting his way into the Dome of the Rock shrine last April. His plea of insanity was rejected.

# Kissinger admits PLO meeting

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The *Washington Post* reported yesterday that Dr Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, conferred secretly in Morocco last November with a senior aide to Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in a meeting that has become a complicating factor in the Reagan Administration's drive for a Middle East peace settlement.

The front-page story quoted Dr Kissinger as saying that he had met for 30 minutes Mr Arafat's aide, a member of the PLO's executive committee, in Rabat in late November. But he insisted that the meeting was "not a political meeting".

Stating that he was not conducting "my own foreign policy", he added that he was not aware of the meeting that Mr Arafat was a PLO official.

The newspaper report said that United States officials who confirmed the Kissinger-Dajani meeting vehemently denied on Wednesday that Dr Kissinger had sought to set up a "back channel" to the PLO that would have undercut the Reagan Administration's efforts to bring Mr Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan together on a formula allowing Jordan to join peace negotiations with Israel.

Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, was reported to have advised the King during a trip to London last month that the Reagan Administration had nothing to do with the Kissinger-Dajani discussion.

Dr Kissinger later confirmed the report in a television interview, but said he did not know of the man's PLO connection and called his brief talk "an inconsequential conversation", AP reports.

# Red Cross want illness investigated

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

After a visit to the West Bank by one of its doctors, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva is recommending the setting up of a full inquiry to investigate the mysterious illness affecting hundreds of people, particularly schoolgirls.

Its delegate, Dr Franz Altherr, who returned here on Monday after four days of visiting West Bank hospitals, examining cases and discussing the symptoms with their Palestinian doctors, has carried out numerous evaluation missions in the West Bank and Gaza over the past decade. He also met several West Bank personalities and the Director-General of the Israeli Ministry of Health.

The ICRC pointed out yesterday that the doctors could do no more than assess the situation, an inquiry not being within its present mandate. Its communiqué added: "In view of the objective findings of its doctor-delegate and what he perceived with regard to the number of hospitalizations and the uncertainty being experienced by the victims and the population, the ICRC recommends the setting up of a full-fledged inquiry."

# Murderer hanged in public park in Beirut

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Only one day before the execution, Mr Gemayel's decision to reactivate capital punishment appeared an attempt to restore confidence in the state after eight years of civil strife and turmoil.

There was little comment from official and other circles on the execution. Tarraf's counsel Mr Nimeh Nimeh, said the execution came at a time when "the country is mostly under occupation and crimes are still being committed."

He added that at the rate of the thousands of killings that took place in the past eight years a quarter of the population would have to be sentenced to death.

The last legal execution in Lebanon was in 1972, when Tewfik Itani, a blacksmith, was hanged in a Beirut prison for murdering his brother-in-law.

● **KUWAIT:** Mr Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization and other Palestinian officials agreed to hold talks yesterday on whether to let King Hussein of Jordan represent them in peace talks with Israel, Reuter reports.

Two Kuwait newspapers reported that King Hussein had given Mr Arafat 48 hours to decide whether to give him a mandate for the peace talks proposed by President Reagan.

# Soviet block plea for Nato contacts

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact nations yesterday issued a warning that the nuclear situation in Europe was "fraught with dangerous consequences", and appealed to the Nato countries to resolve the nuclear impasse through negotiations, not through the deployment of new American missiles.

The appeal came in a communiqué issued at the end of a meeting in Prague attended by Soviet block foreign ministers, including Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. Last Saturday Mr Gromyko rejected President Reagan's offer of an "interim proposal" on medium-range missiles in Europe as "unacceptable".

The Warsaw Pact communiqué was moderate in tone, and emphasized the need for agreement and dialogue with the Nato powers. It was in marked contrast to more bellicose recent statements by Soviet leaders, including Marshal Ustinov, the Soviet Defence Minister, who warned the United States on Wednesday that Russia would strike back at America if it was attacked by American missiles on European soil.

Yesterday's statement in Prague, released by Tass, gave no hint of how agreement with Nato might be achieved or whether the Soviet bloc was prepared to make any concessions. It referred repeatedly to the political declaration adopted by Warsaw Pact leaders in Prague in January, which proposed the removal of all medium range missiles from Europe, beginning with a "radical reduction".

Yesterday's communiqué emphasized the need for "the continuation of and extension of state to state political dialogue at all levels". It repeated the offer made by Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, in December to balance Soviet missiles against the British and French nuclear deterrents.

# World arms spending up by 27 pc over decade

From Our Correspondent, Washington

World military spending increased between 1971 and 1980 by 27 per cent to \$595,000m (£400,000m), with the Soviet Union leading both in spending on arms and weapons exports, according to an American report.

The report, entitled *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers* issued by the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), and covering 145 countries, said that in 1980 Moscow spent about \$188,000m on its military, while the United States spent about \$131,000m.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union exported arms worth about \$9,000m compared with America's \$7,000m.

All the figures are in 1979 constant US dollars to show real expenditure, free from the impact of inflation.

The 129-page report, the fourteenth in a series, was released as the Reagan Administration was fighting a tough battle with Congress which is trying to cut down the President's controversial five-year defence programme.

He wants to spend about \$2,000 billion over the next five years to modernize American conventional and nuclear forces in the face of the growing Soviet military power.

The report said that the 10 countries leading in military spending during 1980 were the Soviet Union, the United States, China, West Germany, France, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Poland and Italy, in that order.

Nato and Warsaw Pact members accounted for 75.4 per cent of world military spending in 1980, down from 79.7 per cent in 1971.

Europe which accounted for 55.1 per cent of the total continued to have the largest concentration of military forces and equipment in the world.

Although Nato was ahead of the Warsaw Pact in spending terms the Soviet Union spent about \$58,000m more than the United States.

In terms of gross national product Soviet military spending accounted for 14.6 per cent while that of the United States was about 5.5 per cent.

Other highlights of the report include:

● During 1976-80 the 10 biggest arms suppliers were the Soviet Union, the United States, France, Britain, West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.



Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Socialist Party leader (right), talks with Señor Andrés Pérez, of Venezuela, Señor Anselmo Sule, of Chile, and Señor Daniel Oubier, of Costa Rica, at the Socialist International meeting in Montecarlo, Portugal, yesterday.

# Pentecostals to stay inside US embassy

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The six Pentecostals still marooned in the United States Embassy in Moscow said yesterday that despite the decision to allow Lydia Vaschenko to emigrate, they would not leave the embassy compound until they knew that other members of their families still in Siberia were safely out of the country.

In the two cramped and stuffy basement rooms, which have been the home of the dissidents since they sought refuge in the embassy nearly five years ago, the atmosphere was a mixture of quiet hope and profound suspicion.

The "Siberian seven" who rushed past guards into the embassy in June 1978 became six in January last year, when Miss Vaschenko was allowed to return home to Siberia after falling ill during protest hunger strike. This week she was suddenly given permission to emigrate, and on Wednesday left for Vienna on her way to Israel.

Her mother, father and two sisters remain inside the embassy, with Mrs Mariya Chomkyhalov and her son Timofei in the adjoining room.

Miss Vaschenko's sister Lyuba, who has become a spokesman for the family, said yesterday they were hopeful but suspicious. Lydia's release had been a good sign. But there had been so many tricks and false promises by the Soviet authorities that "we don't know what to expect next."

"It's difficult to believe assurances - either from the Americans or from the Russians - when we have been deceived so many times," Lyuba said.

Upstairs in the embassy a US spokesman said the case of Lydia Vaschenko should not necessarily be seen as a change of heart on the part of the Russians.

# Israeli dissenters return campaign ribbons

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

In a country which already has more than its fair share of war heroes, a new generation has emerged this week at a ceremony in which the 36 individual awards for bravery arising from the war in Lebanon, Israel's sixth and most controversial conflict, were presented. Twelve of the citations were made posthumously.

The dissent which has dogged the war since the invasion was launched last June, has continued with the disclosure shortly before the ceremonies that several hundred Israeli reservists presented with campaign ribbons for their part in the conflict have returned them to the army. No exact figure for the number of protesters is yet available.

Because of the high standards which have been set in the past, no members of the Israeli Defence Forces qualified for the country's highest award, the Medal of Valour, the equivalent of the Victoria Cross.

But the committees which make the decision on the basis of at least three eyewitnesses decreed that two men should get the Medal of Valour, the second most coveted battle honour.

One was First Lieutenant Mordechai Goldman, from the crack Golan Infantry Brigade, who was deputy commander of the force which captured Beaufort Castle, the former Crusader stronghold which had effortlessly resisted repeated Israeli air attacks until it was stormed by soldiers in the early stages of the fighting.

The citation read yesterday in front of an audience which included Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, described how the force of 21 men which Lieutenant Goldman was leading towards heavily fortified Palestinian positions to the north of the hilltop castle, came under fire, resulting in several casualties.

It went on: "When the remaining force reached the objective and entered the enemy's trenches, two more soldiers were hit, but despite the few men he had left under his command, Lieutenant Goldman decided to continue with the battle."

"He personally led his men, running on the outside of the trench, hurling grenades and engaging enemy forces. He was often compelled to return to the main body of his men for more ammunition."

During the battle, later described as some of the fiercest hand to hand combat in recent Middle Eastern warfare, Lieutenant Goldman assumed command when the company commander was killed, and completed the capture of the castle.

The other top honour went to Captain Moshe Krawitz, who was deputy commander of the armoured column that fought its way along the coastal road towards Beirut, and was ambushed at Khalde, the now battered seaside resort where the peace talks between Israel

# Letter from Dubai Wheelchair Emir who likes a lick of paint

From his splendid green-roofed palace behind Dubai wily old Shaikh Rashid can contemplate his most spectacular creation - the 39 storey International Trade Centre. Billed as the tallest building in the Middle East, the 150-foot high gleaming white tower is a symbol of the Shaikh during his 25 year reign in this tiny Gulf emirate.

Long before the British left what used to be the Trucial States entirely to their own devices in 1971, the Merchant Prince, as he has become known, had already made a fortune transforming one of the lower Gulf's best natural creeks into a thriving commercial centre. The subsequent discovery of vast oil reserves which now yield some 350,000 barrels a day have just been icing on the financial cake.

Unlike some of the other Gulf rulers, Shaikh Rashid has always taken a close - some of his critics would say too close - personal interest in the way that Dubai has developed. Driving past the Trade Centre on one of his inspection tours of the city, he decided that its original pale grey exterior was much too drab. Scaffolding was hastily erected around the building and for the next six months an army of workmen swarmed over the tower with paintbrushes, much to the annoyance of patros at the adjoining Hilton Hotel, who found their cars speckled with white paint.

There was a time when the ruler was up at first light and driving around the city to make sure everything was running smoothly before starting work in his office on the quayside at eight o'clock sharp.

His door was always open, recalls Mr Bill Duff, a Briton who is still one of his key financial advisers, and decisions were taken without recourse to any of the red tape which plagues other parts of the Middle East.

But about three years ago, Shaikh Rashid, then in his late sixties, was taken seriously ill with a kidney complaint. This caused consternation at the time because as ruler of the second most important emirate - Abu Dhabi is the biggest - Shaikh Rashid had only just belatedly agreed to become Prime Minister of the still fragile federation of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Now he spends much of his time in a wheelchair, his photograph rarely appearing among the dozens of flattering pictures of the shaikhs which feature prominently in the thriving but differential English-language papers in the UAE. Fortunately for the future of Dubai, Shaikh Rashid has limited himself to one wife and this factor should forestall too much family rivalry when he eventually dies.

By most accounts his four sons, led by Shaikh Maktoum, deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince of Dubai, get on reasonably well together. Shaikh Maktoum, who was educated in the West and is

now in his mid-forties, has already taken over many of the tasks once carried out by his father. He is liked but apparently lacks the ambidextrous personal touch and financial wizardry of his father.

His younger brother, Shaikh Muhammad, has inherited his father's drive but his responsibilities have been somewhat limited. At the end of last month one of his main tasks was to plant a sapling in a park in central Dubai and open a flower exhibition as part of the federation's Plant a Tree programme. Thanks to irrigation, Dubai picks up its place as one of the greenest cities in the Gulf.

Although bulldozers are still much in evidence flattening the sand to make way for the latest in Western technology, the desert is oozing with cleared to make way for less ambitious schemes than the high-rise banks, dock complexes and airports of the 1970s. Current building work is concentrated on infrastructure projects like new roads and the construction of small towns to settle the increasingly rarefied groups of wandering Bedu tribesmen.

Shaikh Rashid took the decision to scale down development at the time of the Iranian revolution when the Dubai economy suffered its first real setback. During the days of the Shah 60 per cent of the emirate's re-exports, mostly luxury goods, were ferried by motor-powered, dhows across the Gulf to be unloaded in Iranian ports.

The return of Ayatollah Khomeini from exile in France to take charge in Tehran stopped this trade almost overnight. One Dubai merchant, for example himself the owner of \$12m worth of tyres which would only fit vehicles in Iran. They are still rotting away in a warehouse.

The recent fall in world oil prices has also affected the local economy, although Shaikh Rashid has insisted that Dubai cannot participate in the latest Opec production cuts. He has argued with some justification that Dubai has to keep its extraction rate at its present level because the local British-built aluminium smelter provides much of the emirate's supply of fresh water and needs the fuel to keep its furnaces burning. It will, therefore, be up to Abu Dhabi, the largest oil-producer among the emirates, to shoulder the lion's share of the cut-backs.

Nevertheless, the worldwide recession has had an impact on the lifestyle of Dubai's inhabitants. The large white expatriate community, of whom probably some 15,000 are British, continue to enjoy the benefits of one of the most politically stable and relaxed Islamic states in the Middle East. Only the less privileged workers from the Indian sub-continent, who far outnumber native Dubaisians, are likely to suffer if the economy continues to slow down and their work permits are no longer renewed.

David Cross

# Oil slick hits coast of Bahrain

Manama (AFP) - As Iraq and Iran continued to argue yesterday over how to tackle the massive Gulf oil leak, the first slick reached the north coast of Bahrain and fears grew for oil supplies shipped through the Strait of Hormuz.

However, there was some doubt about whether the pollution, in the form of a swathe of glutinous crude along the high-water mark, was from damaged Iranian oil wells in the north-eastern gulf about 650 miles away or from nearby shipwrecks. The beach is also polluted with rubbish including a wrecked car.

The Gulf has long been considered to be the most polluted sea in the world. A member of the airborne team monitoring the main body of the leakage, which was the size of Belgium before it broke into patches, said as surveillance had not been carried out before, no one knew the condition of the sea in normal circumstances.

The three main problems are that the oil threatens freshwater drinking supplies from desalination plants, particularly in Qatar which is entirely dependent on such supplies; that the oil will concentrate in the Strait of Hormuz, seriously threatening oil supplies to consuming countries; and that fish, the Gulf's only other natural resource, will be harmed and the fishing industry damaged.

In Kuwait, meanwhile, a meeting of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment, which had been delayed until yesterday morning, was delayed again until later in the day.

Iraq maintains that Iran must make an official commitment to a "partial and temporary ceasefire" under the aegis of the United Nations so that repairs can be carried out to the damaged Iranian wells at Nowruz, Mr Sadegh Alouch, the Iraqi Health Minister, said yesterday.

Iraq alone could not give guarantees as the wells were in the war zone affected by fighting between Iraq and Iran.

# Soviet army officers held by British

Bonn (Reuter) - A number of Soviet Army officers attached to the military mission who were near West Germany's border with The Netherlands were detained by British military police on Tuesday for questioning. The civilian police had stopped them in the area of Jülich.

They were released but the case was now under scrutiny, a British Army spokesman said. He declined to comment on reports that the Russians were stopped near a nuclear plant.

# Lawyer missing

San José, Costa Rica (AFP) - Señora Yolanda Urizar, a Guatemalan trade union lawyer, has disappeared after being seized by security troops in civilian clothes. She recently returned to Guatemala after President Rios Montt's promise of freer political activity.

# Heroin haul

Frankfurt (AFP) - Customs officers seized 8½ kg of pure heroin at Frankfurt Airport, the biggest haul ever in West Germany. They arrested a man of 25 who arrived from Delhi heading for London, in Amsterdam 21lb of heroin was seized, and nine people were arrested.

# Beatle spot

New York (AFP) - The city council approved plans for a three-acre "Strawberry Fields" site in Central Park to John Lennon, the former Beatle shot dead in New York in December, 1980. His widow, Yoko Ono, gave the city \$500,000 (£330,000) for it.

# Hijacker jailed

Mombasa (AP) - Ali Jama Kawi, aged 22, a Kenyan who lived in Somalia, was jailed for 15 years for the mid-flight hijack of a small aircraft from Mogadishu, to this Indian Ocean port last Saturday. He wanted to go to Ethiopia but the pilot did not have enough fuel.

# Pope's visit to Poland creates dilemma for Solidarity leaders

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

One of the abiding mysteries in Poland is the rash of sporadic pro-Solidarity demonstrations after church services.

Easter passed quietly, but there is a serious prospect acknowledged by both the Government and the Solidarity underground, of unrest early next month.

The question underpinning these demonstrations is the subject of a propaganda tango between the authorities and Solidarity: Is somebody trying to sabotage the planned visit of the Pope to Poland in June?

The Government says it welcomes the Pope and is studying a detailed itinerary that meets most of the Church's main demands. But it has also made clear that the visit could be threatened by Solidarity-inspired mass unrest.

At the same time the official press has loudly deplored the organizing of demonstrations at church services and blamed them on extremists, helped by American-financed Western radio stations which beam into Poland.

Solidarity sympathizers, on the other hand, talk darkly of "provocation" - that is the planting of agents provocateurs to stir up trouble deliberately and the frequent presence of water cannon and riot police even before church services begin.

The reasoning of the underground - set out in their clandestine bulletins - is that there is a group of hardliners in the Polish Communist Party or in certain ministries who do not want the Pope to come.

Why, say Solidarity activists, if the Government insists on social calm before the papal visit, did General Czeslaw Kiszczak, the Interior Minister, stand up in Parliament and announce that anti-government protests are expected in May - even before the underground called for such protests.

Diplomats have a twofold explanation. Above all, they emphasize, the Government does not want to wreck the visit. The official invitation has been issued and the return of the Pope to his homeland would in some way legitimize the line of the Jaruzelski leadership.

The first aim of the Government appears to be to flush out as many troublemakers as possible in May and keep them under lock and key for the Pope's visit. Moscow, has obviously approved the idea of the Pope coming, but has underlined that there must be no risk to public order.

The second aim is to edge the Catholic church leadership into a neutral position, using the carrot of the papal visit. The church can be persuaded to urge calm and conciliation over the

next few months, to distance itself from all the Solidarity demands - apart from the call for an amnesty for political prisoners.

The church, however, is too clever to be boxed into a corner. It, too, can use the prospect of the Pope's visit to urge concessions on the Government.

Mr Lech Walesa symbolizes that dilemma. Nowadays he commutes between the trials of his friends and former union colleagues - he says a courtroom is the only place where the union can be discussed openly - and he is becoming increasingly radical in his statements. The impending trial of his former advisers in the dissident KOR group will be particularly crucial in this respect.

At the same time, however, he wants the Pope to come, remembers the energy his last visit released in 1979.

The underground leadership of Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski shares the dilemma. It wants a show of strength, yet it does not want to give the Government an excuse to cancel the Pope's visit.

Edmund Baluka, a prominent Solidarity activist who had close ties with emigre groups in France goes on trial next week charged with working to subvert Poland's socialist system, an official newspaper said. He will face a military court in Bydgoszcz.

# Prince plays the gallant at a royal party

From Gravia Forbes of the Press Association in Perth

A gallant Prince of Wales yesterday kissed his sailor-suited Princess in front of 6,000 people - on the hand.

The little intimacy came at the end of a long, hot afternoon in which the royal couple spent more than an hour in brilliant sunshine meeting guests at a Government House garden party.

The Princess wore an ice-blue silk dress with white braid above the hem, and a sailor collar. Her small blue and white boater was set at a jaunty angle with a veil above her eyes.

The Prince and Princess, who were greeted by cheers and applause as they emerged from Government House, went in opposite directions round a large circle, speaking to anyone who happened to catch their eye.

The Princess looked relaxed and cheerful despite the heat and a long morning which included two walkabouts and a visit to the Commonwealth Hockey Stadium for a children's display.

The Prince's day had started with a dip in the Indian Ocean surrounded by an entourage of nine people and watched by an interested crowd of 250.



Many hands: The Princess of Wales reaches into the crowd during a royal walkabout in Perth.

As he left the water, he said: "I enjoyed it very much, it was tremendous." But the security men could not afford to be so relaxed, for it was on this beach

four years ago that Miss Jane Priest, a model, became an overnight cover-girl after kissing the Prince in the surf. Yesterday police were taking no chances and tried to keep curious onlookers well at bay.

News of the Prince's swim on North Cottesloe Beach near Perth soon spread and the public, reporters and photographers were there to watch as he

failed to reply to an invitation to see Prince Charles and Princess Diana at Eden Park, the city's biggest sports ground, on April 18, Reuter reports.

Mrs Maryam Street, local chairman of the Post-Primary Teachers' Association said that they did not rate viewing the royal couple as a high educational priority. A man wearing a solidarity button tried to stop a cab taking the Princess to visit a hospital, throwing her to one side of the car as the driver swerved. The Princess was not hurt and a man was held by police.

# Church against nudes on Greek beaches

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Greek Orthodox Church has decided to oppose actively the Socialist Government's plan to legalize nudism on secluded beaches to bolster the country's declining tourist industry.

The Holy Synod, the 13-bishop governing body of the Church, decided unanimously on Tuesday that no nudist camps should be permitted.

"Nudism constitutes not just a provocation, but a brutal assault on the good morals of the Greek people," the synod declared.

The national tourist organization reacted stiffly to the Synod's decision, and announced that nudist colonies would be set up as long as the local people agreed.

It stated: "Nudists are nature-lovers of a high cultural level and a high income bracket, with morals and love for the ancient Greek spirit. They do not, therefore, pose a threat to Greek traditions."

Swimming and sunbathing in the nude, considered an offence to public morality, is punishable by up to six months imprisonment and/or a fine. On some islands, however, the authorities are inclined to turn a blind eye on some secluded beaches where permissiveness borders on promiscuity - all in

the name of tourism which, because of inflation and pollution, suffered a setback in 1982.

Four years ago, demonstrators led by the local bishops in eastern Peloponnese, drove out a West German naturalist group which had leased a seaside hotel for the summer season.

Earlier this year the Socialist Government, after securing the consent of local mayors and, possibly, bishops, announced its intention to revise the law on public morality in order to encourage the creation of four to five nudist resorts outside inhabited areas.

Mr Nikos Skoulas, secretary-general of the national tourist organization, said care would be taken to keep the camps away from towns and villages out of deference to the local inhabitants. "If anyone claims to be offended we will know he was using binoculars", he said.

But the Holy Synod rejected the assurances given to Archbishop Seraphim, the Greek Primate. It decided to send a three-prlate committee to the Government and the tourist organization to demand that the plans be withdrawn and penal law provisions on public morality be respected.

# Tanzanians sacked after sabotage

Dar es Salaam (Reuters and AFP) - Three senior Tanzanian officials have been dismissed for failing to implement government directives in the war against economic saboteurs, Tanzania radio said yesterday.

Mr Timothy Shindika, the Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, was relieved of his duties because he blocked efforts of the regional police commander in rounding up saboteurs, the radio said.

Mr Godfrey Kanfunbula was removed from his post for giving wrong information to Morogoro regional leaders about a racketeer who was hoarding goods worth millions of shillings.

Mr Isak Msuya, Superintendent of Police, who turned Wednesday was relieved of his post because he failed to pass on a government directive to the regional commissioner.

Mr Edward Sukoine, the Prime Minister, disclosed on Wednesday that people were held for questioning in a crackdown on economic saboteurs and racketeers.

President Nyerere told government and party colleagues on Tuesday that a countrywide swoop on March 25 had recovered goods and money totalling 17m shillings (£1.2m).

"I was shocked when I was taken to a private warehouse a few days ago where I found stored goods and spare parts which make the central government store look like a joke," Dr Nyerere said.

The grants and dismissals were the first shots in a war President Nyerere has declared on the parallel economy which has sprung up in the past five years as agricultural and industrial output has declined.

While state factories have had to halt production for lack of spare parts of basic materials, the black market, where the dollar is worth 50 or 60 Tanzanian shillings compared with 9 shillings at the official rate, is comparatively well supplied.

# Extremists in Assam seek arms

Delhi (AFP) - Right-wing extremists in the violence-torn north-east Indian state of Assam are shopping for arms in the Indian region bordering China, Nepal, Burma and Bangladesh, federal intelligence sources said yesterday. There was no immediate confirmation of how successful they had been.

In continuing clashes in the state, in which militants are campaigning against several million immigrants from Bangladesh and Nepal, at least 13 people had died in the last two days, with 6,000 others made homeless, other reports said.

Assamese extremists had succeeded in making contact with secessionist elements in the adjoining states of Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur and Nagaland and were being helped to shop for arms, the intelligence sources said.

Intelligence agents arrested five right-wing Assamese extremists last week near the state capital of Gauhati and discovered after sustained questioning that they had crossed the state's boundary for arms.

There have been numerous reports of thefts of detonators and gelignite from state-owned road building organizations in the mountainous region, and the agents believed the stolen goods were purchased by right-wing extremists.

Gauhati and several other areas in Assam have been hit by a sudden increase in bomb explosions, which have led federal agents to believe the extremists have succeeded in establishing a supply link.

"However, the situation is yet to become serious. We have succeeded in destroying the supply lines", one official, who asked not to be named, said.

Army operations in the region have unearthed Chinese-made automatic rifles and munitions.

Reports today said areas in Assam's Goalpara district have been declared "disturbed", empowering the Army to shoot on sight anyone believed to be engaged in violence, to search and arrest without a warrant, and to demolish any structure that could be a security hazard.

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# Pan Am. You Can't Beat the Experience.

حکومت عمان

SPECTRUM

The annual hunt for those 81b gold statuettes is in full cry. David Hewson and Ivor Davis look behind the scenes at next week's awards



10 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING: BEST PICTURE BEST DIRECTOR Sydney Pollack BEST ACTOR Dustin Hoffman DUSTIN HOFFMAN Tootsie

Left: Paul Newman awaits the judgment on his performance in The Verdict. Centre: Ben Kingsley contemplates the fate of Gandhi. Right: Dustin Hoffman's studio boosts the success of Tootsie.

Will hype or humility win the Oscars?

In all his 30-year career, Paul Newman has never been more visible. During the past three months he has spent more time in front of notebooks and cassette recorders, giving interviews to ecstatic journalists, than he would normally allow in a decade.

The results of his endeavours, which can be measured in magazine covers and newspaper column inches, are, it is whispered, on behalf of one object: an Oscar. Five times a nominee, never a winner, Newman smells success this year - and so does his studio, which is participating in the annual Oscar race by putting its considerable muscle behind efforts to promote his performance in The Verdict as worthy of the best actor award.

So assiduously has the publicity offensive been mounted that Newman's press agent has been forced to issue a formal denial of allegations that the star is on an "Oscar hunt"; no one is fooled into believing that the campaign is aimed at anything but the ceremonial opening of the envelope in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles, in the early hours of next Tuesday morning, London time, when Croesus puts on his tuxedo as the movie industry foregathers to celebrate the 55th prizegiving of the Academy Awards.

Ask any film executive lounging around the pool at the Beverley Hills Hotel what he really thinks of the Oscars and he will express the private opinion that the ceremony has little to do with class, talent or quality, and everything to do with old-fashioned Tinseltown razzamatazz and money. And then he will add that he would give an arm and a leg to get just one of those 13 1/2 inch high icons on his office desk.

Much of Hollywood's glitter has tarnished over the years, but the Oscars live on in their glory for a very simple reason: they are a solid gold guarantee of fame and wealth for whoever receives the key awards for best picture, best actor and actress, and best director.

Last year, the British-made Chariots of Fire came from nowhere to steal the best picture award, thereby giving the British film industry its greatest fillip in years. David Puttnam, the producer of Chariots, is still somewhat awed by

the effect the award had on the film's world-wide box-office receipts. With enhanced returns from sales to cable television stations and other outlets, Puttnam believes that Chariots gained between \$15m and \$20m from the Oscars. A re-release of the film in Britain after the victory brought in more income than Chariots had earned on its first time round the circuit.

If the price of success is phenomenal, the cost of failure is written on a similar scale. Consider Chariots' chief opposition for best picture last year, Warren Beatty's Reds, an epic of the Russian revolution which cost six times as much to make as Puttnam's film. When Reds failed to pick up the top prize, its appearances on the cinema circuit were drastically curtailed and the film turned, in a matter of weeks, from being promoted as a great and lasting American movie into a colossal write-off for its studio.

So the stakes are high in the gamble, to win the approval of the 3,400 voting members of the Academy, who decide which names go into the Oscar ceremony envelopes as nominees and

relations men, all of whom have been invited to join. No one fills in an application form. The voting habits of the various caucuses are never released, but it has been generally accepted over the years that the technicians' vote is crucial to the winning of the best picture award. And in the past that vote has been strikingly xenophobic, probably on the strictly practical grounds that lavishing prizes on foreign films does not create work in Hollywood.

Chariots changed that preconception in a way which is likely to smile on this year's British hope, Sir Richard Attenborough's Gandhi. Puttnam's winning formula entailed the film opening in America just before Christmas, winning good word-of-mouth opinions and peaking around February, when the Academy votes are being cast. While most of his rivals were running over-the-top advertising campaigns in the film world's trade papers, the Hollywood Reporter and Daily Variety, Puttnam pushed for Chariots to be promoted through low-key, "ethical" ads which, by virtue of their very simplicity, put across some of the qualities inherent in the film itself.

While the rest of Hollywood seemed to be pushing the same old film-flam, Chariots rode in on a wave of clean-cut positivism, tickled along the way by successes at such Oscar "heats" as the BAFTA awards in Britain. It is a style of campaign which Gandhi - produced and financed by Goldcrest, which paid for the original Chariots script from Colin Welland - is copying to the last detail, and will be repeated next year when Puttnam's new movie, Greyhound, is pushed for the nominations.

This year, the pursuit of the Oscars will again involve a massive collective investment. Charles Powell, a Hollywood marketing consultant who knows all about spending money to ensure that a particular movie remains front and centre in filmland's consciousness, reckons that between them the studios are disbursing about \$800 for each man and woman in the Academy, making a total approaching \$3m.

It may sound outrageous and unporting, but Powell says bluntly: "This is not a game. When a film wins an Oscar you can add a minimum of

\$10 million onto the box office take." One top Hollywood agent adds: "If my client wins, I automatically double his asking price for his next movie."

With all this largesse in pursuit of votes, the question presents itself: "Can you buy an Oscar?" Powell admits that spending doesn't hurt, but points out: "If you look at the history of Hollywood, some of the biggest spenders didn't pick up any awards at all." Back in 1961, he recalled, John Wayne pumped a small fortune into promoting his movie The Alamo. It received six nominations, but the blatant publicity campaign antagonized so many voters that they turned against him. It won only one award - for sound.

Nowadays, every year, the Academy routinely warns the studios to avoid excessive advertising and every year the warning falls on deaf ears. The spending spree is waged mostly in the trade papers, but the studios also hold nightly screenings of films and pay for their stars to go on cross-country publicity tours.

This year Columbia Pictures, Universal and Twentieth Century Fox have been the big spenders. Columbia's dollars and hopes are riding on Gandhi. To start with, the studio, which didn't pay a penny towards the actual \$23m cost of making the picture, spent \$12m to launch and promote it. The film has done spectacularly well for a not-obviously commercial subject and has garnered a record 11 nominations, including best actor for Ben Kingsley, best film and best director.

Columbia, however, is hedging its bets and spending lavishly as well on Tootsie. The big money-carrier this year (\$70m so far), the film has run off with 10 nominations, including the three major ones: best actor for Dustin Hoffman, best picture and best director for Sydney Pollack.

A stone's throw away, Universal is hoping to grab its share of the golden trophies with its best hopes, Meryl Streep, nominated as best actress for Sophie's Choice, and Jessica Lange for Frances. Lange has also been nominated as best supporting actress for Tootsie, the first double nomination for an individual in many years. Their

stable also includes Jack Lemmon and Sissy Spacek for Missing and, of course, the Steven Spielberg blockbuster ET for best picture and best director, although ET is probably the only film in a long time which has done so well that the award of an Oscar would make very little difference to its financial performance.

To the outsider, it may seem hypocritical of the studio to put its money behind more than one of its contenders. How does Universal justify putting its money on both Streep and Lange for the same prize?

Charles Powell explains: "Even if in their own hearts they knew one actress didn't have a chance, they'd be obliged to spend dollar-for-dollar. It's simply that this is a business of relationships and they wouldn't want to alienate Jessica Lange, for example, by declaring themselves in Streep's camp, even if they thought she had a better chance." So although an Oscar may do more at the box office for Gandhi than Tootsie, the studio has to play the game even handedly by giving Dustin

Oscar victories not only give a movie a second lease of life, but can boost a star into the \$1m picture bracket. When Lee Marvin won in 1965 for Cat Ballou his \$250,000 picture price rocketed to the magic million. Agent John Gaines, who handles Steve Martin and Mary Tyler Moore, says: "If they are currently making a million, you ask for two next time. Somewhere in the middle is what you get."

The stars themselves studiously avoid the impression that they are lobbying on their own behalf. Most, however, do not go as far as George C Scott, who loudly denounced the Oscar system in 1970 for pitting a comedy actor against a dramatic one. Despite his outburst, he won for his lead role in Patton.

This year Debra Winger, nominated for best actress in An Officer and a Gentleman, told interviewers that she didn't like the film. Instead, she used the opportunity to promote her new film, Mike's Murder. "We hope voters will recognize that Debra is a fairly extraordinary actress," says her publicist, with extreme tact.

Charles Powell notes that the studios no longer entertain as lavishly in their push for votes as was once the case. "The emphasis is on screenings, and lots of ads to make sure that every voter at least gets to see the movie," he says.

Not everyone agrees that an Oscar triumph is necessarily comparable to hitting the jackpot. When Rita Moreno got one for her performance in West Side Story, she promptly disappeared from Hollywood for seven years; her co-star George Chakiris, also a winner, had to return to a career on the stage. Rod Steiger took a well deserved award for The Pawnbroker, but recalls: "I felt like a ball player who'd hit a home run in an empty ballpark." He followed it up with a series of movie disasters.

Nevertheless, the Oscar awards have brought more joy than tears. Henry Fonda died a happy man when, after a lifetime of sterling performances, he won his one and only Oscar for On Golden Pond last year. Among their qualities is that no one, winner or loser or bystander, is indifferent to the destinations of those 81b statuettes.



Much of Hollywood's glitter has tarnished over the years, but the Oscars live on



Victories not only give movies a second lease of life, but boost stars into the \$1m bracket

Hoffman as big a push as Ben Kingsley.

Possibly the reddest faces this year belong to the executives at Columbia who wrestled with the dilemma of pushing the unsuccessful movie version of the \$40 million musical, Annie. The film was produced by Ray Stark, a Hollywood powerhouse based at Columbia. The studio spent around \$200,000 in what most observers see as a completely futile attempt to rescue Stark's picture. The film got only two nominations, both for its music.

Breaking the all-time losing streak

Michael Hamlyn sees the British train for the America's Cup off Nassau



Syndicate leader de Savary: free-spending determination

Away from the brilliant turquoise shallows, out where the deep water turns indigo, two huge yachts circle each other angrily, like vast predatory birds. They run head to head in tight turns, tacking and twisting, each striving to take the other's wind, or to gain a positional advantage before the start of a race, one of the many hundreds of races these two boats have run in the past year.

Each boat is 12 metres long, each mast is higher than a house. Their mainsails dominate the horizon from three miles away. These are the yachts Lionheart and Australia, both former competitors in the America's Cup and both now used for training the crew for Britain's challenge for the cup this summer. Peter de Savary's Victory syndicate.

De Savary is not everybody's favourite financier, but there is no doubting his patriotic determination to wrench the cup off its stand in the New York Yacht Club and screw it firmly in the Royal Burnham club house. With his foot-long Havana cigars and his bullet-headed boxer's stance, he gives a fair impression of an ersatz Churchill - but imagine how good it will be for British boating and British tourism if the next set of America's Cup races had to be held off Newport, Isle of Wight instead of Newport, Rhode Island.

No one but the Americans has ever won the cup in its century-long history, but if money can do it, de Savary intends to end that tradition. His free spending and his determination have not pleased the snobbish yachting society around Newport, and the British team has been accused of ungentlemanly conduct in spying on the potential opposition. American observers have been watching the British training this winter.

The team of dedicated young people that de Savary assembled last summer in Rhode Island is wintering in Nassau,

"They spent the summer learning what 12 metres were. Now they're learning how to sail them," says their coach, Peter Bateman, the 38-year-old former coach to the British Olympic yachting team.

A chubby, good-humoured fanatic, Bateman follows the giant birds around the ocean in a 14-foot long Boston whaler, slamming into the waves with spine-shattering vehemence. He mutters encouragement and criticism into a hand-held radio, broadcasting to the skippers his opinion of each crew's performance.

"Not bad," he says of one sail change, "but about three seconds too slow." And later during the race, he growls: "Did you see what a difference race conditions make? They did the same sail change seven seconds faster that time..."

better," said a young crew member from Pool, Dorset.

The syndicate is building a new boat, despite de Savary's scorn last summer for the Americans, who announced they would build a new defender, now launched, named Liberty and in training off California. "It's like having a new Grand Prix car at the start of the car-racing season," Bateman explained. "It gives you the very latest in race technology."

The builders, Fairey Allday at Hamble, and the designer, Ian Howlett, are incorporating a number of refinements resulting from the summer's experiences in Newport. The syndicate is confident that the new boat will be significantly faster than the two present trial horses.

One advantage the Victory team feel they have over the defenders is in sail design. In previous years it has been a crucial factor in the Americans' favour, but Peter Bateman, himself a sail-maker, with support of two other sail-makers in the team, feels that they have sufficient expertise, backed up by the team's considerable resources of electronic analysis, to take a lead. He declares that they have already made several significant design advances which will have an effect on all sail design in the future.

The new boat was due to leave England this week and to begin sailing off Newport on May 1. The first races to decide the official challenger will be held on June 18. There will be three round-robins and semi-finals among the prospective challengers, and a final which will be held from August 28 to September 8. The cup defence will begin on September 13.

All this is a far cry from the financial plight of the Lionheart challenge in 1980. Then the syndicate was unable to afford even to lift the boat out of the water to have her bottom cleaned. Until that is, Peter de Savary came along and paid up.

The Nanook of North London

There is an unhealthy whiff of something in the air these days, and I don't mean lead pollution: I mean nostalgia.

Afternoon tea is coming back, says Egon Ronay. Noel Coward lives, says the BBC spectacular. Upstairs, Downstairs is back again, says Channel Four. And there have been no fewer than two TV versions of Three Men in a Boat.

But this isn't the real world. In the real world, nanooks are running across the Himalayas, crossing the Atlantic in kitchen sinks and bicycling across Africa. If Jerome K. Jerome were here today, he would, surely, be giving us...

Three Men Walk To The North Pole

This morning we decided to build the igloo. It has been agreed all along that George knew how to build an igloo. To listen to George, you would think he had been building igloos all his life, and that it only took a touch of frost in the suburbs for George to whip up an igloo in his back garden, on the grounds that it was much warmer there than in his house. In Highbury, they call him Nanook of North London.

It now turns out that George only knew a chap who had once seen an Eskimo make an igloo at the Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen, and that he wasn't a real Eskimo any how, only a Dane who had travelled a bit. This turned out after we had followed George's instructions and laid a circle of ice blocks.

"I'm not sure what comes next," said George suddenly. Harris suggested we might leave out one block where the front door goes. I thought there probably wasn't a door, as it would let all the cold air in. We turned to George for a decision.

NOROVER Miles Kington

"Actually," said George, "come to think of it, I think you start at the top."

That's the trouble with George. He can remember everything except the important details. I remember once when we were discovering the source of the Nile and George was very keen on shooting rapids. It wasn't till we were halfway there that he remembered you have to come down a river to make use of rapids. The upshot was that we started at the source, and discovered the estuary of the Nile. It had been done before, admittedly, but never using three pedalos.

"I'll hold this block up in the air," said George, "and you build up to it."

It was while he was standing like that that the polar bear found him. Harris noticed it first. He said afterwards that he had recognized it from pictures in his Boy's Book of Extremely Dangerous Animals. At first he had taken no notice, it being very like his Uncle Harry in the white coat he wears for long walks, but on reflecting that Uncle Harry was dead, he revised his opinion.

"Look out!" said Harris. "Behind you! Uncle Harry!" That's the trouble with Harris. He's very good at spotting an emergency and very bad at suggesting solutions. I remember once when the three of us had gone on a little jaunt across the Alps to prove that Hannibal could have done the crossing in a couple of weeks if only he'd left those blessed elephants behind, and George had been charged by a chamois. "Look out!" Harris had cried. "It's your Auntie Mabel behind you!" By the time he had identified the thing correctly, George was down a crevasse

and, as he said five hours later when he was dragged up more dead than alive, it's no fun being savaged by something you normally clean your windows with.

Anyway, George was equal to the occasion this time. He carefully laid down the ice block, no doubt to avoid creating the impression in the creature's mind that he was a hillypop ready for the taking, and got his saxophone out of his case.

He blew a few notes, which would normally have had the birds falling out of the trees in a dead faint, but which in the

absence of both birds and trees, had only the effect of driving off the bear. With its paws over its ears, as Harris said later, it reminded him of a time - but suffice it to say that it left us sitting on the Arctic ice cap with no igloo, no polar bear, no food and no dogs. The 40 huskies had run away the day before, with Montgomery.

"And no toes," said Harris. "Don't forget the toes."

It was true. All our toes had dropped off one night, after George had failed to put up the stumps tent. George said it was called frost-bite and quite normal. Harris said it was called claiming to know more about stumps than was warranted.

I hope things are more cheerful tomorrow.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 34)

- ACROSS: 1 Leg cover (7), 5 Cliche (3), 8 Be in debt (3), 9 View (7), 10 Accumulate (5), 11 Syncope (5), 12 Greek wine (7), 14 Vanishment (13), 16 Mortification (7), 18 Opposed to (4), 21 Claw (5), 22 Relaxation time (7), 23 Nigritia tribe (3), 24 Doctrine (5), 25 Disregard (7). DOWN: 1 Row (4), 2 Ending (5), 3 Psychotic illness (13), 4 Revolving part (5), 5 Scroowal (13), 6 Arab (7), 7 Sick (8), 13 Learned (8), 15 Marine creature (3,4), 17 Stocking cloth (5), 19 Habitual (5), 20 County (4).

Crossword grid with numbers 1-25 indicating starting positions for the clues.

SOLUTION TO No 33: ACROSS: 1 Office (5), 2 Scepter (5), 3 Hex (9), 4 Ormolu (10), 5 Triple (11), 6 Mini (12), 7 Frankist (13), 8 Uptake (15), 9 Indeed (17), 10 Fiddling (20), 11 Into (22), 12 Scarce (23), 13 Outlaw (24), 14 Paw (25). DOWN: 1 Fermi (3), 2 Erotica (4), 3 Shuffle (5), 4 Extra (6), 5 Chick (7), 6 Peisae (14), 7 Prince (15), 8 Ingrown (16), 9 Drifter (18), 10 Didge (19), 11 Inept (21), 12 Tiana (24). The dictionary recommended is the New Collins Concise (Solution to No 34 on Monday).

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.



FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Enter the stone pulverizer



Urinary tract stones affect one in ten people at some time of their lives. Many are passed spontaneously and some, for a variety of medical reasons, are left undisturbed, but in 20 per cent of cases the stones have to be removed surgically.

Two new techniques have been introduced which will minimize the upset to the patient so that many of those who would previously have been unfit for surgery and anaesthesia can now be treated.

An important conference on stone surgery is to take place at Centrepoint in London this month. Among those attending will be doctors from the Devonshire Hospital, formerly the Arrazi, who have already ordered a £750,000 German machine which can destroy the stones without surgery.

One of the methods, known as extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy, has been devised by three Munich doctors, Christian Chaussey, Ebert Schmiedt and Walter Brendel. After the patient has had an epidural spinal anaesthetic he is seated in a bath of water while a generator discharges 500 to 1,500 shockwaves targeted onto the renal stones, which are pulverized.

The less expensive of the two methods, pioneered in Germany, has already been introduced into this country at St Bartholomew's Hospital and the Institute of Urology, St Peter's and St Paul's. It involves the passage of an endoscope, a tube incorporating a fibre-optic viewing device, which can give the surgeon both a direct and a televised view of the kidney.

Mr Hugh Whitfield, of St Bartholomew's Hospital, said that about 50 per cent of stones could be removed by this percutaneous route. The procedure, although it sounds simple, requires considerable surgical skill, perhaps more than in the old-fashioned surgery.

The operation, he explained, is done in two stages: first, the kidney is outlined by injecting a dye under local anaesthetic; the needle track is then dilated so that at the second stage, carried out under general anaesthetic, the endoscope can be passed along the track. Young and fit people need spend only four days in hospital and can be back at work within a week.

Batting clever

Jill Hammersley-Parker, twice European table tennis champion and one of the most successful players ever, is now over three months pregnant; she has withdrawn from the team travelling to Tokyo on the advice of her obstetrician.

The late Mr C. W. F. Burnett, a leading influence in the education of midwives after the war, used to teach that all excessive travel in pregnancy was undesirable, but that there was a particular risk in driving long distances in a car as the angle of the backward sloping seat, coupled with the vibrations from the car, produced pelvic congestion occasionally leading to abortion.

He used to suggest that women, particularly in the first three months of pregnancy, should get out of their cars every 40 minutes and go for a short walk to restore their circulation. Train and plane travellers were advised to wander up and down.

Mr Anthony Kenney, Consultant Obstetrician to St Thomas's Hospital, London, said this week that there was very little scientific data on the hazards of travelling, but that its undisturbance had become part of the folklore of pregnancy. He recommended patients to try to limit any journeys to under two hours and to avoid exercise which excessively shook the body in general and the uterus in particular.

Although hard scientific evidence is limited, doctors working in holiday resorts have noticed an unusually high number of miscarriages on Saturday evenings, possibly caused by a long drive to the sea.

Merciful release

Doctors are expressing surprise at a decision by the Court of Appeal to release Michael Daniel, of Harold Hill, Essex, a diabetic who was sentenced to prison for being one of a gang involved in a savage attack on a young woman. The judges were apparently concerned lest the high carbohydrate diet served in prison shortened his life span.

They obviously did not realize that earlier this year a campaign was launched to persuade diabetic patients that it was more important to find the right dose of insulin, than to reduce carbohydrate intake. When the high-fibre carbohydrate is drastically reduced there is a danger that too high a proportion of the patient's diet will be fat. A high fat diet results in an increase in the incidence of heart disease, diabetic blindness and strokes.

In Third World countries, although the staple food is largely carbohydrate and so dull that the Parkhurst menu in comparison would seem like the Connaught's, the death rate from complications of diabetes is only a fraction of that in London or New York.

Although the traditional prison fare - porridge, beans, lentils and peas - are now recommended foods for diabetics, the experts did concede that a patient might face other problems in maintaining diabetic control in jail and that presumably, they had been taken into consideration by the judges.

Beyond the blues

Mr Gerald Priestland, the former BBC religious affairs broadcaster and now a successful author, recently silenced his fellow diners at a London club with his views on depression. Most people have days of feeling fed-up or sorry for themselves; but to hear an articulate sufferer from true depression made them realize what a difference there was between endogenous depression and the occasional blues. Later Mr Priestland talked to The Times.

The difference is important and often overlooked by commentators: endogenous depression is not directly related to events; although it can be triggered by circumstances, most authorities agree that it is an inherited biochemical abnormality. Sufferers from acute attacks usually respond to medical treatment, and psychotherapy can help in reducing the number of attacks.

Teaching manuals recount the symptoms of irritability, insomnia, characteristic early morning waking, loss of enthusiasm for work and domestic life, the improvement in mood as the day advances, loss of libido and lack of appetite; but Mr Priestland also talked vividly of other symptoms frequently outlined by patients but rarely found in the text books.

He described the sense that the future could not possibly hold any enjoyment, that any future was quite unimaginable. The sense of guilt though the cause may not be known, and the feeling that one's guilt was bound to be discovered, with inevitable retribution for crimes unwittingly committed.

Mr Priestland, has learnt over the years to avoid potential triggers which might bring on his depression; not to get over-tired, not to allow his day to be over-filled so that he is chased by inadequate time, and not to meet other depressives whose mood is infectious.

Dr Thomas Stuttford Medical Correspondent

Life with a revolutionary Redgrave

When Deirdre Hamilton-Hill married Corin Redgrave she felt like an extra in a film, starring Vanessa - but it was politics which finally broke their marriage.

Clare Colvin reports.

Deirdre Redgrave's flat in Kensington is a cloakroom proof that she is financially hard pressed. The threadbare carpet is worn, the dining chairs, subjected to assaults from cats, are in urgent need of reupholstering. The place has the air of a one-parent family at bay.

Deirdre wears her poverty proudly. It is the first thing you hear about when you arrive. She is shaking with rage, she says, at the bureaucratic idiots who have refused her 15-year-old son a national Giro account. Not only that, but they had by-passed her letter and had written directly to him. She had made an angry phone call to a Giro hureaucrat and nothing would satisfy her but a three men in anoraks stomped in. Friday afternoon, not surprisingly, no grovel was forthcoming.

Lack of money is the explanation she gives for writing an autobiography which takes apart her marriage to Corin Redgrave and casts a slightly jaundiced eye on having been part of that legendary family.

Lady Redgrave, she says, is not unhappy now that she has read the book but Corin and his sister Vanessa are furious. She writes of how her 14-year marriage ended, not for the usual reasons that marriages end, but because of politics. Her husband allowed the Workers' Revolutionary Party to take over his life and, as far as the WRP was concerned, Deirdre was a bourgeois revisionist.

Any qualms she might have had about writing the inside story of her marriage were ended three years ago, by a solicitor's letter. Her solicitor had applied for maintenance, and Corin's solicitor had replied that not only was his client unable to make an offer of maintenance for his children, but Deirdre was to supply particulars of her own means "as a result of which it may be that we shall advise our client to apply for maintenance against your client". The threat was never carried out.

"I was devastated. I burst into tears and went to bed and pulled the sheet over my head, and it ripped. It was then I decided I had to find a new career - I had been designing clothes for TV commercials but the ITV strike had put an end to that. I thought of my bottom drawer stuffed with unfinished novels, and realized I had got a perfect story here - a marriage that went wrong for very odd reasons."

She teamed up with a journalist friend, Danae Brook, who lived in the same block of flats and they departed for an isolated cottage with a couple of typewriters. Six weeks later they had completed the book To be a Redgrave (Robson Books £7.95). It traces the relationship

from its romantic beginnings in 1962 when Deirdre was 22, to its disintegration in left-wing political indoctrination.

Marriage to a Workers' Revolutionary Party member sounds a harrowing business. Their whole style of living changed. Pictures disappeared from the sitting room walls to be replaced by posters of Trotsky and Lenin. Cooking with wine was condemned as bourgeois, and beef bourguignonne gave way to Lancashire hotpot. Their flat became a meeting place for WRP workers who treated Corin's wife and children with total lack of regard. One evening Deirdre was watching a play on television when three men in anoraks stomped in, switched off the set, and carried on their political discussion without appearing to notice she was there.

When WRP people talked to her, it was only with the object of pressurizing her into joining the party. At the height of Corin's activities their telephone was tapped. How did Corin Redgrave, whose ageing career looked set to take off in the same way as his sister Vanessa's, come to devote all his energy to a minor political party to the detriment of both marriage and career? He had been searching for a cause for some time, she says. There had been flirtations with Black Power, in which one of their friends, Gail Benson, was fatally involved. One evening Corin attended a WRP meeting at which its founder, Gerry Healey, spoke and he was hooked.

"Corin was attracted by power. He actually believed that the Workers' Revolutionary Party was going to run England. It was he who got Vanessa involved, rather than the other way round. I went to party meetings, listened to what was said, read Marx, did my homework. I agreed with some of it, but I did not want to be manipulated. I felt that the techniques used by the WRP to gain recruits were similar to those used by the Black Power people who had murdered Gail. It was the automatic way they treated each other that put me off. I felt we were being invaded by an alien group of people who were trying to take my identity away."

It was far from the glamorous world in which she and Corin began their relationship. They were introduced in 1962 by a friend, Jonathan Benson, later husband of Gail, after Corin had played Lysander in A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Royal Court. After dinner he took them back to the Redgraves' Knightsbridge flat for a brandy. He played a romantic number from Gyps and Dolls on the piano, and Deirdre fell in love.

The convent-educated daughter of



Wearing her poverty proudly: Deirdre Redgrave at home in Kensington

a naval family - Deirdre suddenly found herself part of a famous theatrical family, whose friends included Noel Coward, Laurence Olivier, Vivien Leigh, Ralph Richardson and Peggy Ashcroft. It was exciting, but not necessarily good for the ego.

"At my wedding I felt like an extra in a movie, and Vanessa was undoubtedly the star, without even trying to be. Very famous people, like very rich people, are not aware of things being any other way. It seems perfectly natural that photographers should be snapping away wherever they go."

She did her best to look the part of a star when she dressed up for glamorous premieres; but she had the feeling that it did not really justify her membership in this elevated circle. Her in-laws were charming and kind to her, but under the appearance of an affectionate, remoteness. Corin saw so little of his father that they communicated by notes. Lady Redgrave absentmindedly allowed her daughter-in-law to address her by her title for three

years. Deirdre, like the youngest Redgrave, Lynn, felt overawed by big Vanessa with her forthright views. At the centre of the family was Sir Michael, who was frequently away from home.

"The Redgraves played the closest, theatrical family at home as well as they played Ibsen and Shakespeare on stage. Their world was made up of lines and gestures; they always seemed loving, kind and friendly, yet it was like a mirage."

But at the time Deirdre was coming to her decision to leave Corin, it was to her mother-in-law she turned. Lady Redgrave, also the actress Rachel Kempson, had abandoned her career for several crucial years in her youth, and she encouraged Deirdre to search for her own identity rather than continue with her unhappy marriage.

"She explained to me how in many ways the Redgraves were very selfish or self-motivated people. She knew that ruthless streak in all of them, because she had lived through it, too. She told me that we had both married into a family of extremely brilliant people who would always

put themselves or their causes first, but that I was still young enough to make my own life. She had decided years ago to endure it, and she felt on balance it had been worth it, but I knew I could not."

Corin now lives with the actress Kika Markham, who introduced him to the Workers' Revolutionary Party, and they have a child. He works full time for the WRP, lecturing and distributing party newspapers. Since his involvement with the radical left, his acting career has suffered.

Deirdre and their two children, Gemma, 18, and Luke, 15, live in the former matrimonial home, the shabby flat in the Kensington block once inhabited by the Princess of Wales. Like her royal ex-neighbour, Deirdre is planning to move, but to a baysitter. She has put the flat on the market to pay off some late bills and is already three-quarters of the way through another book, which she hopes will bring in some more cash. It is called How to survive After Thirty-Five, and she says she is writing it with the benefit of experience.



The wedding, 1962: bride and groom, stage left, with Sir Michael and Lady Redgrave and Vanessa. Right: Corin and Vanessa at a WRP conference, 1979.



TALKBACK

Looking for work From Peter Davidson, The Kiln Barn, Puckley, Kent.

I was profoundly irritated by Tessa Green's article of mawkish self pity (First Person, March 25). What is the use of higher education - of which she seems so proud - and fifty years of experience, which she acknowledges to be special, if one cannot discover the simple truth coined by that semi-literate Henry Ford: "Work lies all around us; it only becomes a job when somebody else gives us it to do."

It is not a job which Ms Green wants, but work with other people. Disadvantaged groups of all types are keen to give us problems to solve, deadlines to meet and the exhaustion which comes from a hard day's work.

The ill-educated of limited experience can be expected to be put about by losing a job, but that is not Ms Green's lot. Perhaps her real concern is the loss of privilege which high income brings. If such is the case, society's investment in her case, society's duty to use her education and experience to set about creating work for herself and jobs for the less well-educated and privileged.

The idea that anybody owes us a living is nonsensical but never more so when it is implied by those who, taking

the advantages which society endows, regard their privilege as a right.

Right to choose From Mrs M. Robins, Bourton House, Bishops Canning, Devizes, Wiltshire.

Please tell Mrs Simcock (Talkback March 18), and others in a similar position that they have an alternative. Most local authorities have very limited budgets for places in voluntary homes for mentally handicapped adults, but provided that they have a refusal of relief of tinnitis (Talkback, Feb. sponsor in writing from the 25). The response from your Director of Social Services, they readers has been staggering. Within two weeks more than 400 had written to me and Simcock's daughter as an adult letters are still arriving.

Few mentioned loss of take her parents' income into hearing, but nearly all wrote of the fluctuation in the volume of their head noises and commented that, having read of my lodging rate, which can now come near to the full fees of an organization such as CARE, they recognized that the noises became far more noticeable and, in some cases, almost intolerable, when they were fatigued, worried or afraid.

Because tinnitis actually causes these states, it is not surprising that the sufferer finds himself on a treadmill. I am therefore more than ever convinced of the close connexion between stress and tinnitis. Even if the condition is linked with deafness, as in my own case, it seems that there can still be fluctuations and that stress will make the noises louder,

COMMENT

Scandal of the slum landlords

Many councillors have expressed concern for the homeless on the hustings, but ignore them in reality. Local authorities of all parties have turned Nelson's eye and allowed the homeless to live in squalid, unsafe, overcrowded insanitary rip-off joints. Simultaneously, landlords have made riches from the DHSS out of the plight of the most vulnerable in our society.

Recently, a private members' Bill beat hostile government whips with a majority of 100 to nil, designed to compel local authorities to demand that landlords set minimum standards of safety and decency in their accommodation. Local authorities have the authority to do this at the moment but either through terror or ignorance have failed to apply the law.

If the Bill is not set on by the Government, or beaten by a June election, it will rectify many of the loopholes in our crazy housing legislation which presently allows both idle landlords and authorities to do nothing. Laws are meant to be clear, concise and obeyed; much housing legislation is confused, imprecise and ignored. This brings the law into disrepute. Shameful conditions are not confined to the inner cities.

Recently in Oxford, a racket was exposed involving squalid accommodation and a gross waste of DHSS money.

In what the Labour-controlled Oxford City Council optimistically called "a guest house" in Illey Road, Oxford, an alcoholic can expect a room with three others and a caterer's bean can as a private. Eleven adults and six children share six rooms. This house is still operating today, and the landlord's annual income is likely to be about £150,000 per annum, payable by the DHSS. It is estimated that Oxford DHSS alone is paying nearly £400,000 a year to private landlords to house the homeless.

The council admitted that some of the houses used in multiple occupation had been operating without rudimentary planning permission since 1965.

Officers advising the councillors appeared not to understand the existing powers available to deal with the city's homeless. Officers seemed not to appreciate that grants of up to 75 per cent are presently available from the Government for renovations, or the council could undertake the work and send landlords the bill.

In Oxford's case, the story is that of confusion, complacency, bureaucratic bungling, no initiative and no political will. Recently the authority asserted that "present policies are considered to be adequate and the real problem is that of staffing".

Charities for the homeless say that the conditions obtaining in Oxford are typical elsewhere.

This Bill obliges landlords to attend to fire safety. Presently lives are at risk and many have already been lost. Recently five people died in Clacton and 10 people died in an overcrowded Kilburn hostel. In 1981 eight people died in a fire in Notting Hill. In all cases the fire precautions were inadequate.

The Government opposes the Bill because of shortage of money. The problem is colossal. There are 139,000 houses in multiple occupation in England providing accommodation for 500,000 people and 85 per cent require urgent attention.

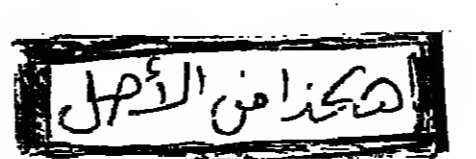
The Government should reconsider. Social security is providing slum landlords with millions enabling them to provide destitutes with dirty beds in overcrowded hovels. It is scandalous that these funds are not better deployed.

Further, Michael Heseltine, when Secretary of State for the Environment, blamed the local authorities for underspending on their capital programmes and implored them to spend on capital projects.

The Government should consider that the Bill might improve dreadful housing conditions, save lives, and even provide vital jobs in the construction industry.

Tom Benyon The author is Conservative MP for Abingdon.

Advertisement for LIFE (Life In Future Education) featuring the headline 'TWO MILLION UNBORN CHILDREN HAVE BEEN PUT TO DEATH UNDER THE 1967 ABORTION ACT THAT'S TWO MILLION TOO MANY!' and a call to action to help campaign on behalf of unborn children.







P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MARSHAL USTINOV'S THREAT

It was always to be expected that after Chancellor Kohl's victory in the West German elections the Soviet Union would set out to browbeat Western opinion.

The precise nature of the warning may seem a little unexpected. Marshal Ustinov appeared to be trying to alarm the people of the United States just as much as their European allies.

It may not alarm European opinion as much as the Soviet Union might expect to be told that a nuclear war could not be confined to Europe.

thought reassuring for Europe to be told by the Soviet Defence Minister that there is no such possibility. One of the original purposes of having intermediate range missiles in Western Europe was to couple the nuclear defence of Europe with that of the United States.

Possibly Marshal Ustinov was intending to weaken the confidence of America's European allies that the United States would be prepared to come to their aid: would it be credible for Washington to threaten to use intermediate range missiles for the defence of Europe if this would place American cities in jeopardy?

The Nato countries should neither be deflected from their existing policy by Marshal Ustinov's speech, nor should they engage in a slanging match with him. Nothing that he said changes the underlying realities.

Although it would be in the interest of the Soviet Union to reach a settlement, there can be no certainty that its leaders appreciate that. Whether they do may well not be apparent for some months: that they are taking a tough stance at this stage should neither induce the West

to weaken its stance nor cause it to give up the quest as hopeless.

But just as the West is questioning whether the Soviet leaders really want an agreement, so Moscow may be wondering whether the West does. It would not be a justified anxiety - there is no reason to suspect that the United States is not negotiating in good faith at Geneva - but it may exist none the less.

If the West were now to tremble at Marshal Ustinov's words, however, that would make an agreement less not more likely. Why, the Soviet leaders would ask themselves, should they concede anything if the cruise and Pershing II missiles would never be deployed in Western Europe anyway?

It ought not to be too difficult, given a willingness on both sides to reach an accord. But if it does prove impossible the cause of peace will best be served by going ahead with the deployment of the missiles. Peace depends not so much upon the level of armaments as upon preserving a balance and the confidence that neither side would act insanely.

NORTHERN IRELAND'S SHOP WINDOW

The manufacturing part of the Northern Ireland economy is more or less flat on its back (the total number of the unemployed in the province actually exceeds the number at work in the manufacturing sector).

In season and out of season the inherent strengths and graces of Ulster deserve to be proclaimed. They have been masked but they have not been shattered by suppressed rebellion and political turmoil.

When it comes to attracting tourists Northern Ireland and the Republic would do well to pull together. Both have had something of a slump to which the Republic's now overpriced currency has contributed.

constrained to impose. Indeed, Northern Ireland's busiest traffic in visitors takes the form of bulk shopping expeditions from across the border.

The competition for inward investment on the other hand is stark, and here the Republic has had it very much its own way for a decade and more.

Many factors underlie this variety of performance including the psychological effects of terrorism, the professionalism of the Republic's promotional machine and the advantage it derives from having its own representation abroad.

This was more than the rhetoric of reconciliation. It was the courageous and sympathetic testimony of a Roman Catholic churchman to what is good and valid in Ulster Protestantism.

the province's industrial promoters can take to the road with rather more confidence.

Something else happened in Belfast recently which may not find a place in a salesman's kit but it is of more import to the community than anything to do with investment incentives.

He said Unionists were justified in believing in their right and duty under the law to defend the political institutions embodying their convictions against the threat of overthrow by armed uprising.

England's record, as I well know, is deplorable in its treatment of refugees. After the Russian debacle of 1917, what did England do? It was certainly instrumental in bringing about the death of our Imperial Family by its cowardice and lack of courage in not acting promptly to save them.

This was more than the rhetoric of reconciliation. It was the courageous and sympathetic testimony of a Roman Catholic churchman to what is good and valid in Ulster Protestantism.

Public sector strikes

From Mr M. R. Field Sir, Lord Campbell of Alloway (March 15) is absolutely correct when he states that legal imposition of a "no strike" clause would not be viable without mandatory arbitral machinery.

The Ministry of Defence Staff Association was born in 1981 because many non-industrial civil servants in the Ministry of Defence believed that strike action (dictated in that year by the central Civil Service unions) was wrong in such vital areas as defence.

Whether these were necessarily good for the economic health of the country is not directly relevant to the matter under discussion, but when honoured by both parties they

worked satisfactorily. There is now such a climate of distrust that no such arrangement could work, and therefore an agreement legally binding on both sides would seem to be the only solution.

There are undoubtedly many public service employees who would willingly sign a "no strike" agreement if they could be assured that the government of the day would not seek to make them the example to others of the virtues of pay restraint.

The present Government would succeed much better with its employees if it gave an indication of being willing to move in that direction: regrettably it does not. In fact the Prime Minister has gone on record as saying that "no strike" agreements can prove expensive.

Police and liberty

From Mr Charles Cory-Wright Sir, You report today (March 30) an assurance by the Home Secretary that the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill will "not allow random searches for incriminating evidence or the production of confidential records which would not be admissible in evidence."

This assurance would be more reassuring were it legally obtained evidence not currently admissible (unless a judge exercises his discretion to exclude it). The Bill attempts to revise this situation by asking the judge to exercise his discretion before charge: on an expert application for an order to search for that incriminating evidence. If he gives this order, does this affect judicial discretion to exclude at trial? And should there not be blanket exclusion of illegally obtained evidence (as defined by common law at the moment)?

Balancing act on nuclear weapons

From Lord Gladwyn Sir, I believe most people would agree with the general tone and temper of your excellent leader of April 5, subject, perhaps, to the following mental reservations.

Always provided that each side possesses the assured capacity to annihilate the other on a "second strike" - which is the present and the likely future position - it does not seem to matter very much whether the USSR has a strategic "preponderance" over the USA or not.

Then again, as regards "intermediate" weapons in Europe, is it necessary for us to match the SS20s missile for missile? Even if the Russians retain sufficient capacity to wipe out many major towns in Western Europe, surely all we want as a "deterrent" is sufficient (invulnerable) weapons to be certain of eliminating (say) Leningrad, Minsk and Kiev on a second strike.

The "numbers game" in other words, is really rather silly. But if we must play it there is every logical reason why at least some account should be taken of the nuclear weapons of the UK and of France.

What is now patently foolish is the continued maintenance by Nato of no fewer than 6,000 so-called "tactical" nuclear weapons, which should be greatly reduced, if not withdrawn altogether.

Finally, if the American Administration, perhaps under the influence of Congress, is induced to moderate its present plans for an enormous increase in its nuclear arsenal and to devote - along with us - the money saved to a strengthening of our "conventional" defences, there might be some prospect of achieving eventually a genuine overall "balance" that could virtually eliminate the possibility of any major East/West conflict.

Television costs at breakfast time

From the Managing Director of BBC Television Sir, Your leader of April 6 misjudges both the intention and the impact of BBC Breakfast Time.

As far as we can tell, in excess of six million people watch Breakfast Time each week, at a production cost to the BBC of a little over £6m annually.

In other words, the BBC is providing the additional service Breakfast Time for around £1 per year per viewer reached - money which is being found from existing resources released as a result of overseas sales and the streamlining of our efforts.

This is not only extremely cost-effective television broadcasting, but also - in judge from what our viewers tell us - new programming which is thought both enjoyable and highly effective.

Your leader makes the tacit and mistaken assumption that popularity is not the province of public-service broadcasters. Breakfast Time has proved that it is possible to be popular whilst being informative.

From Dr John Searle Sir, Your editorial, "Jesus was a Jew" (April 2) rightly condemns the organized Church for 2,000 years of antisemitism. While nothing can justify such treatment of God's ancient people by his Church, you are to be congratulated for grasping the fundamental point of tension between Jew and Christian.

Certainly Jesus was a Jew - but because he claimed to be the Jews' Messiah, they themselves rejected him. From that point on, Christian and Jew inevitably took separate roads - the one rejoicing that the Messiah had come, the other longing that he might come.

The Apostle Paul was well aware of this divergence when he wrote to the Church at Ephesus. How, he asks, may Jew and Gentile be reconciled? His answer is that they must first be reconciled to God.

What then is the way forward now? First, Christians need to ask forgiveness, both of God and the Jews, for centuries of wrongdoing. Secondly, we must try to demonstrate that pattern of love which Christ gave us. But thirdly, the Church must humbly insist that Jesus is what the Jewish leaders of old condemned him for claiming to be - the Son of God. Just as to many a Gentile such a claim is foolishness so to many a Jew it remains a stumbling block.

Teacher training

From Mr Michael J. Wilmott Sir, The protestations of Mr K. L. Gardner and Professor Browne concerning their experience of education or perhaps such departments are inundated with candidates of (as Mr Gardner suggests) 21 or 22 years of age with similar qualifications and experience to my own? If not, perhaps your two correspondents or one of their colleagues could suggest what criteria are in fact used in selecting suitable trainee teachers?

Whatever these criteria may be, however, they appear to have been less than successful in preventing the injection into the system of a significant number of poor teachers. The resistance of your correspondents to such facts and their refusal to accept the inadequacy of the existing selection system implied by the facts suggests nothing so much as the efforts of Ptolemaic astronomers to sustain an outmoded geocentric cosmology by "saving the phenomena".

As indicated in your leader on this subject of last week (March 22), more will be required to overturn the prejudices of an educational establishment so convinced of its own rectitude than the vague "powers of persuasion" on the part of the Secretary of State for Education by which Sir Keith Joseph's White Paper appears to envisage the accomplishment of change.

From Mr Richard P. B. Barber Sir, There is, I believe, a very simple method of solving professional soccer's present crisis: immediately institute a system of 50 per cent promotion, 50 per cent relegation in all divisions.

Almost every team in the League would eventually get to play in the higher echelons, thereby creating crowd interest and support at grounds all over the country. Managers could take a longer term view and good young players might be encouraged to stay with a club. It is likely that transfer fees would stay down as a consequence.

It is not a very original idea, I think that was first proposed by the great Chapman, manager of Arsenal, before the last war. Yours etc, RICHARD BARBER, 12B Edith Terrace, SW10, March 25.

unwarranted impression of size and influence.

The commercial reality is that if TV-am achieved their reported target of £20m income this year, that would represent about 2 1/2 per cent of ITV advertisement revenue.

This positions TV-am in capacity and influence as similar to one of ITV's smaller regional companies. Against that background it cannot be viable to employ over 300 staff (many earning special rates of pay for working unsocial hours), mount an essential supporting news-gathering operation independently of ITN resources, service the capital invested in a most handsome television centre and produce some 19 hours per week of live programmes offering overall appeal to a UK network audience whose understandingly small numbers are already divided by BBC competition.

When the BBC look the decision to compete for the breakfast television audience, the availability of impressive resources already serving existing television and radio channels presented a challenge that a small ITV unit could hardly hope to meet on its own.

At that point the concept of TV-am as a viable sixteenth ITV company competing for advertisement revenue with 15 others and providing a UK network service seven days a week required reappraisal. It still does, in my view.

From the Managing Director of HTV Limited Sir, Your excellent coverage of the Camden Lock saga a fundamental issue has escaped comment.

In ITV terms TV-am is a small company. The publicity attracted by the well-known screen personalities involved in the station creates an

Christians and Jews

The job of the Church is both to preach and to live the gospel of Jesus Christ. In the past she has often denied that gospel by the use of force and the courting of privilege.

Today, she may also deny it, not by forgetting that Jesus was a Jew, but by no longer proclaiming that he is the Saviour of the world. It is a Saviour, one who can reconcile them to God, that both Jew and Christian need.

From the Dean of Ripon Sir, For the next year it would require only a very slight modification of the third God Friday collect to meet the need indicated by Dr Phillips (March 31).

Both my applications, aimed at consolidating my expertise in teaching, were unsuccessful. Perhaps the type of experience I put forward does not count in departments of education. Or perhaps such departments are inundated with candidates of (as Mr Gardner suggests) 21 or 22 years of age with similar qualifications and experience to my own? If not, perhaps your two correspondents or one of their colleagues could suggest what criteria are in fact used in selecting suitable trainee teachers?

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Burial procedure for stillborn

From Mr David P. McNaughtan Sir, With reference to Mr Richardson's letter of March 31 on the burial of stillborn babies I feel I must correct the writer's impression that it is "particularly difficult... to arrange burial in consecrated ground".

My wife and I recently had the sadness of a stillborn daughter and both my church, the Church of Scotland, and the local Anglican church at Wadhurst were fully cooperative in arranging her burial on consecrated land in Wadhurst churchyard.

The assumption is pernicious that with a stillbirth there is something second-class about the baby. The arrangements for the burial, whether privately or by the hospital authorities, should command the same consideration as for any other individual. I appreciate that in the latter case there are cash restraints, but they should never lead to the suppression of the practice of the euphemistically named "tandem burials".

Yours faithfully, D. McNAUGHTAN, Wadhurst, Sussex.

From Mr Christopher Hurst Sir, The letter from Mr P. J. Richardson (March 31) illuminating a twilight zone between life and death which few of us know anything about, is full of wisdom and Christian charity. But how surprising that when a stillborn baby is placed in the coffin of an adult this is thought to cause more distress to the adult's relatives than to the baby's parents.

If I were the parent of a stillborn child I would not welcome this seeming annihilation of the spiritual identity of a creature of my flesh and blood (no separate funeral service); the accident of being unbaptised is surely no bar to paradise for the stillborn.

On the other hand, having a totally innocent baby for company in my coffin when I am dead would seem to me highly propitious. Yours etc, CHRISTOPHER HURST, 5 Brookway, Blackheath, SE3.

Fading in the hills

From Dr M. Hughes Sir, Patricia Clough reports (feature, March 25) that those anxious to reserve minority languages in Europe are looking to Wales as a model of successful language co-operation.

If so, they are making a serious mistake. The many and various measures adopted here over the last 20 or so years have failed totally to halt the decline of Welsh, now spoken by about 18 per cent of the population. As Ms Clough admits, the language is "fading in the hills but has become terribly chic in the middle class suburbs..." Quite so. Like all middle-class fads, this latest is likely to disappear as quickly as it came.

There is another side to the coin. Your issue of March 23 reported the worryingly poor performance of Welsh schoolchildren, who, at 15 years of age, "scored bottom of all regions on all scales, normally by a considerable margin". One reason for this may be the fact that, of all the regions in the United Kingdom, it is only in Wales that many of those involved in the education system see its main purpose as the preservation of the Welsh language and subordinate all other considerations to this, for example, the selection of teachers or the organization of secondary education.

Among the policies pursued in Wales at present, only one shows some signs of success, the unjust and unjustified discrimination against non-Welsh-speakers in important fields of employment. It is this which has led the middle classes to become converts to Welsh, by supporting the language, they hope to obtain advantage for themselves and their children. One wonders how long this will last when they see their children emerging from school semi-literate in two languages.

Teams on transfer

From Mr Richard P. B. Barber Sir, There is, I believe, a very simple method of solving professional soccer's present crisis: immediately institute a system of 50 per cent promotion, 50 per cent relegation in all divisions.

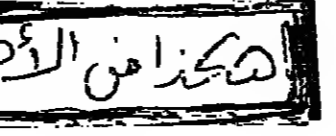
Almost every team in the League would eventually get to play in the higher echelons, thereby creating crowd interest and support at grounds all over the country. Managers could take a longer term view and good young players might be encouraged to stay with a club. It is likely that transfer fees would stay down as a consequence.

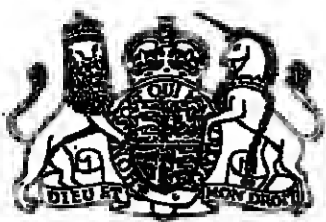
It is not a very original idea, I think that was first proposed by the great Chapman, manager of Arsenal, before the last war. Yours etc, RICHARD BARBER, 12B Edith Terrace, SW10, March 25.

Sea fever

From Mr David Moss Sir, "Deep sea merchant crews are entitled to one day off for every two days worked, whereas ferry crews have one and a half days off for every day worked." (The Times, April 6).

Good grief! Yours faithfully, DAVID MOSS, 4 Melina Place, NW8, April 6.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
Lord Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow...

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
Princess Alexandra will name the first of a new class of Royal Navy Patrol Craft...

KENSINGTON PALACE
Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited Glasgow and was received on arrival at Glasgow Airport by the...

Forthcoming marriages
The Hon W. H. Smith and Miss S. S. Leland...

Mr H. T. McMahon and Miss J. P. Vellacott
The engagement is announced between William Henry, eldest son of Viscount and Viscountess...

Mr C. J. R. A. Baker and the Hon Anne Colville
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Valentine Baker...

Mr P. R. Pentecost and Miss A. H. Ginegill
The engagement is announced between Peter Roy, elder son of Mr D. C. Pentecost...

Mr J. Brooke-Smith and Miss A. W. Rhodes
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Brooke-Smith...

Mr N. J. Calver and Miss J. M. Hill
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the Rev S. J. and Mrs C. W. Hill...

Mr R. E. Dreyer and Mrs A. J. Gardner
The engagement is announced between Richard Edward Dreyer, of Winchester...

Mr A. I. McC. Jacob and Miss H. M. Ratcliff
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs A. I. McC. Jacob...

Mr M. H. C. Lewis and Miss S. M. J. Strong
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Lieutenant Colonel St H. W. Lewis...

Mr K. Lynch and Miss S. Hardie
The engagement is announced between Kieron, son of Mrs Julia Lynch...

University News
The Prince of Wales will receive a degree of civil law at Oxford University on May 18.

Latest wills
Mr Charles Roger Middleton, of Lea, near Ross on Wye...

Other estates include (net, before tax paid)
Baldeck, Mr Arnold Leslie, of Axminster, Devon...

Birthdays today
Mr W. A. Acton, 79; Mr Alfie Bass, 78; Mr Arthur Frank, of Hove...

BHAVAN CENTRE presents MAMATA SHANKAR BAILET Indian dance-drama



OBITUARY

SIR GEORGE WHITE Aircraft and car production

Sir George White, BT, who has died at his home, Pypers, near Bristol, at the age of 69, was the third baronet...

Dartmouth salute for Princess

Princess Anne took the salute on behalf of the Queen at Lord High Admiral's Divisions at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth...

How inflation has streamlined the arts

The performing arts are affected no more by inflation than other sectors of the economy, a report published yesterday...

Memorial service

A memorial service for Mr Guy Turner Geddes was held yesterday at St Michael's, Cornhill...

Memorial meeting

A memorial meeting in the club at a meeting in memory of Mr and Mrs Arthur Koestler...

Old Stoic Society

The diamond jubilee dinner of the Old Stoic Society will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge...

Association of Lancasters

At the annual meeting of the Association of Lancasters in London, held last night...

Service dinners

The 5th Bn The Somerset Light Infantry Field Marshal Lord Harding...

Japanese clue

Teicho (AFP) - The fossilized bones of a baby born 20,000 years ago...

MRS J. B. AUGUST KESSLER

Sir Peter Norton-Griffiths writes: An announcement in The Times of March 17...

SIR JAMES THOMSON

Sir James Thomson, KBE, who distinguished himself as a judge in various overseas territories...

MR JACK BLOCK

Mr Jack Block, who had a dominant role in the development of tourism in Kenya...

Sale room

£48,600 for Waugh's humorous wardrobe

A wardrobe built and painted to look like a castle by William Burgess in 1878-79 for his own "model residence of the thirteenth century"...



THE ARTS

Cinema

Revelation of Japanese vivacity

Treasures from a Golden Age National Film Theatre

Smithereens (15) Screen on the Green

Best Friends (PG) Warner West End

The Girl with the Red Hair ICA

"One of cinema's most melancholy tragedies..."

style in embryo). Yet the brightest treasures may well be four films by Hiroshi Shimizu...

Biographical facts are scarce: he was born in 1903, began directing in 1924 and died in 1966...

This important season also pinpoints shared characteristics of Japan's "golden age"...

April 20) offers a masterly example; the family's financial problems are exposed in cluttered interiors that seem lifted from life...

Superficially, Smithereens seems the kind of film one would gladly smash to smithereens: a portrait of New York's punks and drifters...

"Everyone's a little weird these days, it's normal", Wren says at one point with unusual perception...

heroine appealingly vulnerable; the ensemble playing, too, is sharp. We should cherish, not smash, Smithereens.

Best Friends is another film to be quietly grateful for: a Hollywood comedy that sympathetically turns the clock back to the crazy comedies of the Thirties and Forties...

The Girl with the Red Hair, an uncategorised Dutch film showing at the ICA, slots with equal ease into its own cinematic niche...

Geoff Brown

Television Dance of despair

The most significant event of television last night was not a programme but a piece of scheduling as Jeremy Isaacs presented his "jollier, happier face" to the fun-lovers of ITV.

Over on the other side the BBC drama department was proving yet again that it can produce moving wallpaper costing hundreds of thousands of pounds.

We got every cliché in the book. The avant-garde choreographer was a big soft hunk in a white suit with an athlete boyfriend and a familiar line of patter.

Tragedy of a different sort loomed between younger terpsichoreans, getting obsessed, said the male squire. "Accept yourself for what you are."

Episode one of Jury (BBC1) was drama for those of a nervous disposition who prefer to keep their net curtains tightly closed.

Nicholas Kenyon

Michael Church

Theatre Surprise for the tourists

Medieval Players Gate

Did you hear the ooe about the cuckold, the wife and the lecherous priest? Well yes, I was afraid you had: it has been around a while...

character did not sire farce or a more interesting scale. The Medieval Players, whose tireless travel with this strenuous programme...

In a corner, sometimes taking the stage with diffidence, Tom Finucane and Giles Lewis rebec, lute and recorder play with a delicacy that makes the corresponding limitations of contemporary drama hard ignore.

Anthony Masters

Opera Anna Karenina Los Angeles

Opera remains erratic in Los Angeles. There was Feb 27 last spring and the Royal Opera is promised next year. But the San Francisco and the New York City Operas have discontinued their seasons here.

Emily Rawlins's soaring Anna, with Evan Bortnick left during the first interval, and a lot more during the second. What went wrong?

In my opinion the audience did. Certainly Mr Hamilton, as librettist and composer, has not created an unflawed work, as its unveiling by the English National Opera in 1981 made clear.

The Wishare Ebell Theater, best known as a chamber-music hall, has a small, shallow stage. Mr Chase worked wonders by projecting his settings on to a scrim; that meant scenery in front of the performers rather than behind them.

primarily the stage limitations and the budget (\$586,000 for this production plus The Ellixir of Love and Tosca) - the decision in favour of the scrim makes good sense. It acts, with the stage behind it darkened, as a projection screen not only for still photographs of handsome old Russian palaces and other edifices, to set the scene, but also for motion-picture sequences, including almost overwhelming close-ups of Anna registering various emotions.

Paul Moor

Concerts

Musical family ideally matched

LMP/Blech Festival Hall

Not such a good night: the booklet had run out of scores, the hall had run out of programmes and the London Mozart Players had run out of enthusiasm.

fuzziness of attack and an unevenness of balance that made the performance less than scintillating. For every good solo player - the two clarinets, on Wednesday - there are several less outstanding, and though the string sound (which is given a special character by Blech's placing of the double basses on the left) is warm, the chords never mesh with that firmness characteristic of an orchestra whose members are used to listening to one another.

The evening's main attraction was the appearance of the Tortelier family ensemble in Beethoven's Triple Concerto: a piece that scarcely could be more suited to the family talents if they had commissioned it themselves.

the problems of balance are copious and were partly solved here by Maria de la Pau's crisp, small-scale piano sound. It never threatened to overwhelm her father's flamboyant cello playing, which was as always vividly projected. Yan Pascal Tortelier's viola playing was the most prominent, while the piano and violin have secondary roles.

The problems of balance are

Fine ensemble in the making

Hanson Quartet Wigmore Hall

I often wonder what Britten's music would have sounded like had he been allowed while a student at the Royal College of Music to go to Vienna for lessons with Berg. Maybe Peter Grimes would have been exactly the same, but surely his route towards serenity would have been quite different.

conventional sequence of four movements, it is a work of great originality and violent contrasts.

The opening movement oscillates between a texture of strange high-pitched diatonic clusters beneath which the cello offers slow triadic ruminations and an Allegro vivo which rejoices in its easy syncopations. Similarly the Allegretto con slancio exploits the principle of alternation, here between a calm crotchety pulse and explosive cascades of triplet quavers.

An unusually full orchestra for a "chamber concerto" here included a quartet of bassoons, though their highly colourful effect mentioned in the programme was not greatly in evidence.

Otherwise Stephen Hope conducted an alert performance in support of the pianist, whose skilled technique encompassed the demands of the work to generally diverting purpose, including several sustained stretches unexpectedly high on the keyboard.

It was preceded by modestly spirited playing of Grieg's Piano Concerto, with the soloist drawing out much of the poetic and lyrical character at the heart of the work.

Noel Goodwin

Study in display

Stephen Hope Orchestra Fairfield Hall

The indefatigable Ronald Smith, who has laboured long in pursuit of the elusive Alkan, brought to performance on Wednesday night a Concerto de camera which he relates to the mysterious concerto the 18-year-old Alkan is known to have performed at the Paris Conservatoire in 1827.

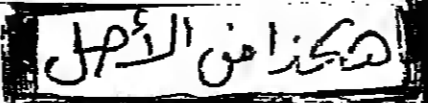
It is cast in a continuous span lasting some 16 minutes, with three sections corresponding to the usual movements of a classical concerto, though with more weight in the finale. In style it is less linked to Chopin than to the keyboard writing of Moscheles or perhaps Hummel.

Stephen Pettitt

PIXOTE GATE SCHOOLBURY GATE MAYFAIR MAO MOZART

PARSIFAL ARHM BY HANS JÜRGEN SYBERBERG "A movie experience no film or opera lover should resist..."

REDUCED PRICE PREVIEWS UNTIL MONDAY BARBARA DICKSON Blood Brothers THE WILLY RUSSELL MUSICAL LYRIC THEATRE ADVANCE BOX OFFICE 01-437-3686



MARKET REPORT by Andrew Cornelius

Index close to record

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, March 21. Dealings end, April 8. Contango Day, April 11. Settlement Day, April 18.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues with columns for company name, price, and change.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table listing British funds with columns for fund name, price, and change.

MEDIUMS

Table listing medium-sized stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Table listing local authority stocks with columns for authority name, price, and change.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Table listing bank and discount stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Table listing brewery and distillery stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Table listing commercial and industrial stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

Heavy new-time buying and continuing optimism about a cut in bank base rates brought the FT Index close to its record high of 673.6.

Most leading stocks rode on the back of the rising market, with breweries, stores and construction stocks faring best.

Breweries, in particular, looked strong with Whitbread up 6p to 147p.

Building and construction shares also showed strong rises, with the impetus coming from the prospect of lower interest rates.

Bank shares were uneasy at the prospect of the cut in interest rates, and were further dampened by renewed speculation that the big clearing banks could be preparing for rights issues after they publish their interim figures next month.

The theory runs that currency changes have diluted the banks' balance sheets to the extent that they will follow Standard Chartered's lead before Easter launching a big rights issue.

Benson's Crisps is coming to the Unlisted Securities next Thursday. Profits were £402,000 for the year to November, and similar profits are expected this year.

Gilts were quieter, consolidating after the sharp rises seen earlier this week, and awaiting a cut in bank base rates. For once, the focus for interest rates was this side of the Atlantic.

Longs closed down a quarter, but there was rather more interest in the short end of the market, where rises of an eighth were seen by the close, and in index-linked stocks which gained around three-eighths.

The government borrow supplied more of the 2 1/2 per cent index-linked 2016 to the market, although he is still left with plenty of the stock.

Phoenix Assurance fell by 4p to 308p after yesterday's poor results, but dealers are expecting news of a takeover bid by Phoenix to emerge early next week.

Sua Alliance continued its strong climb after yesterday's better figures, gaining 5 1/2p on the day to close at £1.10p and making a near £2 two-day rise for the shares.

Among the engineers, NEI showed well, moving up 9p ahead of next week's figures. The market is going for £39m pretax profits this year, and about £45m next year (against last year's £33).

Shareholders attending next week's annual meeting of Bladen Industries will be looking for some news of Mr Jim Risk's intentions.

Phoenix said that a bid was completely out of the question.

Sua Alliance continued its strong climb after yesterday's better figures, gaining 5 1/2p on the day to close at £1.10p and making a near £2 two-day rise for the shares.

6p to 206p, and Hawker Siddeley, whose shares fell 2p.

Good results from BAT Industries pushed up shares by 65p to 715p. Pretax profits for 1982 were a healthy £856m, against £684m the previous year.

Plessey was again riding high on the back of yesterday's news that it is planning to join forces with Burroughs, the American computer manufacturer, to exchange technology.

The market is also looking for pretax profits of about £104m when figures are announced next month. Last year's profits were £114m. All this helped to lift the shares by 15p to 559p.

Other fast movers included Glaxo whose shares spurred 25p to 870p, ahead of next week's figures, and Saxon Oil where shares leaped by 33p to 150p on the news that the company was no longer recommending a takeover bid from rival USM oil company, Clyde Petroleum.

In contrast, Softbak shares were on the slide, falling 5p to 495p, after the management said it would oppose the proposed takeover attempt by an American consortium.

Table listing high company stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

Table listing medium company stocks with columns for company name, price, and change.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies. The top 1000 UK companies with all statistical details plus additional information.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing sterling spot and forward rates for various locations.

Money Market Rates

Table showing money market rates for various currencies.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing dollar spot rates for various countries.

Euro-5 Deposits

Table showing Euro-5 deposit rates for various banks.

Gold

Table showing gold prices and related market data.

INSURANCE

Table showing insurance rates for various companies.

Other Markets

Table showing other market rates for various currencies.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table showing investment trust rates for various funds.

PROPERTY

Table showing property prices for various locations.

RUBBER

Table showing rubber prices for various grades.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table showing financial trust rates for various funds.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table showing miscellaneous market data.

TEA

Table showing tea prices for various grades.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table showing miscellaneous market data.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 672.2 up 8.3  
FT 100 81.81 down 0.22  
FT All Shares 421.64 up 5.88  
Bargains 27,336  
Tring Hall USM Index unchanged  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Average 8,442.45 down 306.95  
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,014.15 up 15.68  
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,115.82 up 2.13

CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling \$1.5070 down 75pts  
Index 80.8 down 0.3  
DM 3.6425  
Fr 10.9100  
Yen 358.50  
**Dollar**  
Index 122.3 up 0.3  
DM 2.4130 down 30pts  
**Gold**  
\$425.50 down \$2  
**NEW YORK LATEST**  
Gold \$425.75  
Sterling \$1.5035

INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Base rates 10 1/2%  
3 month interbank 10 1/8% 10 1/8%  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 9 1/2% 9 3/4%  
3 month DM 5 1/4%  
3 month 14 1/2% 13 3/8%  
**ECGD** Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

**BAT Ind** 715p up 65p  
**Blue Circle Indus-**  
**tries** 448p up 10p  
**Gerrard & Nat** 377p up 13p  
**Hammerson A** 685p up 15p  
**Plessey** 559p up 15p  
**Thorn EMI** 503p up 13p  
**Brown Shipley** 365p down 15p  
**Comm Union** 138p down 4p  
**Grattan** 59p down 6p  
**Massey Ferguson** 235p down 10p  
**Burmah Oil** 174p down 4p  
**Sotheby** 495p down 5p

TODAY

**Interims:** Scottish Metropolitan Property.  
**Finals:** Armitage Bros, Clyde Petroleum, Dinka Heel, Emrey, J E England end Sons (Wellington), Insurance Corp of Ireland, Lyle Shipping, North British Canadian Inv, Senior Engineering Grp, Trans National Tst, E Upton, George Willis.  
**Economic statistics:** Car and commercial vehicle production (Feb final).

£10m tax fall lifts Thomson

**THOMSON PROFIT:** The International Thomson Organisation increased its net earnings to £51.5m last year compared with £43.5m in 1981. But the increase was entirely accounted for by a £10m drop in income taxes to £23.9m. Thomson had a successful year in the North Sea, where it has a major interest in the Piper oil field. But its publishing interests suffered £4.7m closure and re-organization costs and £12.4m exceptional development spending (£7.4m in 1981), both charged against virtually unchanged £14.6m trading profits.

COPE BID: The Dowdle consortium, which is bidding for Cape Allman International, now has acceptance for its 60p offer for 21.51 per cent of the shares. The acceptances include 1.8 per cent from private shareholders.

DIGITAL DISCS: EMI Music is to release its first digital compact discs this summer. Two hundred classical and pop records will be available within 12 months for use on the new CD system developed by Philips and Sony.

ICI CONTRACT: A partnership of Imperial Chemical Industries and Simon Engineering's Sim-Chem subsidiary expects shortly to be awarded a contract to help build a \$600m chlor-alkali plant in Indonesia.

INSURANCE BUY: Hill Samuel group is expanding its insurance broking interests with the £4.6m acquisition of Hill House Group, the Bristol-based motor and household insurance broker. The combination of Hill House with Hill Samuel's Lowndes Lambert will cut the group among the top half-dozen personal brokers in the country.

Dow edges higher but stays vulnerable

New York (Reuter) - Stock prices yesterday edged higher in early trading in a spill-over from Wednesday's late bargain-hunting, with the Dow Jones Industrial average up about 2 1/2 points.

Advances led declines three to two, and 14 million shares changed hands in the first half-hour of trading. The Dow had closed on Wednesday 6.07 points down, after being 14 down earlier. Yesterday analysts said that investors may be attracted to the market because of its ability to recoup some of Wednesday's early losses. But they said that the market was very vulnerable to any negative financial news and could still reverse itself.

The market has been hammered over the past two sessions by surprising projections of lower first-quarter earnings, particularly by high-flying technology companies. Many experts wonder, therefore, how strong an economic recovery is underway. Although the Conference Boards latest survey shows a surge in consumer confidence, economists believe the rebound will be relatively weak at first. Investors have been heartened that the Federal Reserve has sought to quell fears of higher interest rates by the drive to cut inflation and claiming that the recent surge in money supply should moderate soon.

EEC in farm talks with US

From Bailey Morris Washington

European and American officials are busy working trying to resolve their agricultural trade dispute before next month's meeting of Western heads of states in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Neither party wants the dispute to overshadow the economic summit at which the United States is anxious to focus on East-West economic relations. One formula under consideration at the sub-cabinet level would involve a freeze on subsidies by the European Community to be followed by gradual reductions in farm price supports.

Some progress was made by ministers who met in Washington last month for what was described as a last-ditch attempt to settle the dispute.

Although nothing definite was agreed to by ministers, enough progress was reported to have been made to encourage them to continue talks.

Because of the sensitive nature of the talks and the difficult political choices involved, it was agreed that there would be a virtual news blackout on the progress of the negotiations. "We recognize that the Europeans have a very serious problem to resolve, especially in view of the political impact of their farmers. In France particularly, in the aftermath of the new austerity measures, the notion of a cutback for the farmers is going to be very difficult to sell," a US official said.

But the US team also warned the European delegation headed by Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp that Congress was likely to take matters into its own hands if tangible progress was not made soon.

Now diplomats are grappling with the question of what approach they should adopt in applying a freeze-related formula which must, in the end, be approved by heads of state.

The decision is whether to take a broadscale approach, applying the formula across the board or whether to adopt an approach advanced by Mr Peter Walker, the British Agricultural Minister, of applying it on a commodity-by-commodity basis. The commodity-by-commodity approach, while attractive to many diplomats, is fraught with problems which could cause the entire set of negotiations to fall apart, thus setting the stage for a trade war some US officials believe.

New company would operate US deal MacGregor's \$400m steel plan

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

New details emerged yesterday of the private, \$400m company that is being proposed to operate the controversial trans-atlantic steel deal. The company, the brainchild of Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation until the end of August, would be formed from the Ravenscraig plant in Scotland and at least two other BSC operations, according to reports originating in the US. The plan, which Mr MacGregor said last week had been jeopardized by premature publicity, involves the shipment of semi-finished steel slabs from Ravenscraig to United States Steel Corporation's works at Fairless, near Philadelphia.

If the project succeeds, about 2,000 workers will lose their jobs in Scotland and up to 3,000 at Fairless. Steel union leaders at both plants have opposed the plan by the BSC and US Steel claim that it provides the best hope of giving the two plants a long-term future. The United States reports said that the \$400m (£266m) would be raised through a stock offering and used to improve facilities at Ravenscraig and fund redundancy payments. A portion of the equity would also be invested in finishing operations at Fairless but the exact amount, according to Mr David Roderick, chairman of United States Steel, is still to be negotiated. The United Steelworkers of America union has expressed bitterness at the proposal, particularly as it has already agreed this year to concede to employers various elements of wages and fringe benefits in return for a \$2,000m modernization of steelmaking facilities. By forming a private com-

Markets left short as authorities favour caution

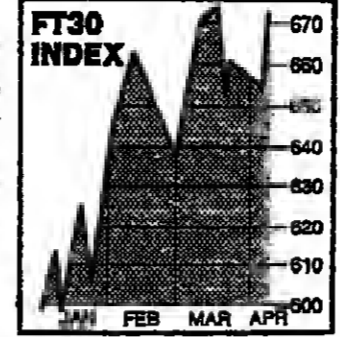
Bank defies City pressure for lower interest rates

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Jonathan Davis

The Bank of England stuck out firmly against the trend to lower interest rates yesterday in a move designed to instill some caution in the markets and head off an over-hasty cut in bank base rates.

In the face of continuing pressure from the discount houses to cut its money market dealing rates for bills, the Bank refused to budge. It continued to operate at rates which are well above market rates, and with the discount houses reluctant to comply, the markets were left substantially short of funds.

Compared with a revised shortage of £700m, the Bank supplied only £465m of assistance to the discount market with the result that overnight interbank rates shot up to about 20 per cent yesterday afternoon. The markets are convinced that a half-point cut in bank



base rates to 10 per cent is imminent and the stock market rose sharply yesterday with the FT Index gaining 8.3 points to 672.2, a whisker off its record high. However, the authorities are believed to favour caution until there is further evidence that oil prices have found their level. In particular it appears that a base rate cut was not today's welcome ahead of today's replies from the major oil companies to the British National Oil Corporation's pricing proposals.

The corporation has given the companies until the close of business today to reply to its proposed cuts of between \$0 and 75 cents a barrel in North Sea prices for March, to follow the \$3-a-barrel cut proposed for February. The expectation in Whitehall and most quarters of the oil

barrel, up 25 cents on the day. The proposed price for Forties crude oil is \$29.75 a barrel, so the differential between the spot and official prices has narrowed from about \$3 to \$1 a barrel since the latest Opec agreement was reached after marathon talks in London last month.

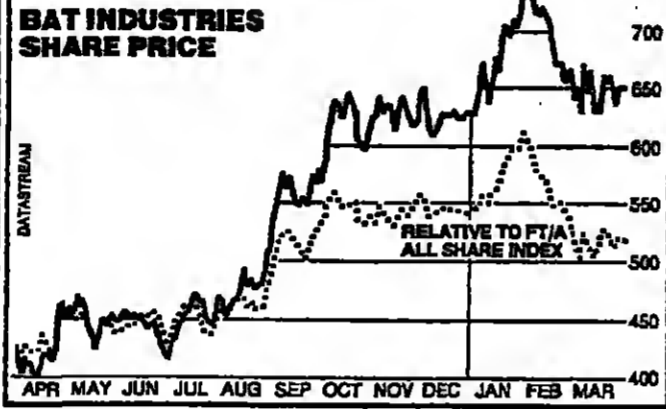
Market confidence that fears of an international oil price war are receding has been boosted by Nigeria's announcement that it will not regard the price proposed by BNOG as undercutting Opec's agreement, despite its earlier warning that it would match any new North Sea price cuts "cent for cent".

The major oil companies such as BP, Shell and Esso have been under pressure from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, not to press too hard for larger North Sea price cuts and thereby destabilize the market. Even if the North Sea prices are accepted, however, there is

no certainty that the price agreement will hold throughout the summer. BNOG has to face the problem of finding buyers for the last 100,000 barrels a day of oil that it trades, following the decision of Gulf Oil, previously its largest customer, to cut back sharply on its liftings.

Pound lower in quiet trading

The pound came in for some modest profit-taking yesterday after its sharp rise in recent days, and speculation over lower United Kingdom interest rates contributed to an easing in sterling's value against other currencies. Sterling slipped three-quarters of a cent against the dollar to close at \$1.5070 and was also slightly weaker against other leading currencies. Its trade-weighted value closed down 0.3 at 80.6.



£172m BAT profits rise tops forecast

By Jonathan Clark

BAT industries Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £856m (£884m) Stated earnings 124.9p (98.5p) Turnover £11,207m (9,285m) Net final dividend 15p (8.5p) Share price 715p. Yield 5.5% Dividend payable 1.7.83

The acquisition of Marshall Field in the United States cost \$368m and together with Marshall's inherited debt this took borrowings to £1,300m, though gearing remains comparatively modest at a gross 45 per cent.

Tobacco trading profits increased from \$463m to £57m worldwide. BAT now has 7 per cent of the United Kingdom domestic tobacco market, which it entered only five years ago. The problem here is that the total market has declined faster than expected and price competition is harsher. Brands include State Express and Du Maurier.

Paper profits increased from £47m to £75m with a big improvement from the high margin carbonless copying paper, the result of a deliberate switch. Rationalization in the United Kingdom should make it as productive as the Belgian arm of the business.

£1.1m Grattan loss adds to mail order gloom

By Our Financial Staff

Grattan's loss, however is struck after costs of almost £1.5 for its modernization programme.

The launch of the You and Yours and Look Again catalogue operations, which have no agents and no credit, cost £3.3m taken below the line as part of a £4.5m extraordinary debit. It has been successful and Grattan has stepped up its marketing support.

The rest of the extraordinary item is for the closure of sales offices which is still taking place. The workforce was reduced by about a fifth last year after substantial cuts in 1981.

New company would operate US deal

plan by the BSC and US Steel claim that it provides the best hope of giving the two plants a long-term future.

The United States reports said that the \$400m (£266m) would be raised through a stock offering and used to improve facilities at Ravenscraig and fund redundancy payments. A portion of the equity would also be invested in finishing operations at Fairless but the exact amount, according to Mr David Roderick, chairman of United States Steel, is still to be negotiated.

The United Steelworkers of America union has expressed bitterness at the proposal, particularly as it has already agreed this year to concede to employers various elements of wages and fringe benefits in return for a \$2,000m modernization of steelmaking facilities. By forming a private com-

Stewart Wrightson up 7pc

By Our Financial Staff

Stewart Wrightson Holdings Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £9.9m (£9.2m) Stated earnings 27.47p (24.27p) Turnover £71.8m (£71.5m) Net final dividend 14.3p (13p) Share price 261p+1p. Yield 7.8% Dividend payable 1.7.83

Stewart Wrightson, the shipping, air and insurance broker, reported a 7 per cent rise in pretax profits to £9.9m for 1982 despite a rise in underwriting losses.

The group blamed the underwriting losses of £1.35m compared with last year's £1,700,000, on the poor underwriting climate particularly in the Middle East where employers' liability and third party motor claims increased sharply.

The United Kingdom market also remained almost flat, while the amount of US business coming to the London market fell.

The fierce competition in the United Kingdom and US markets generally meant lower premium rates than in 1981 and total brokerage income was up only 3 per cent over the year to £49.6m.

Efforts to control expenses included a 6 per cent reduction in staff during the year to bring numbers down to 1,900 and helped to contain the underlying rise in costs to 5 per cent compared with 1981.

The British Bank of the Middle East

"Solid growth in a testing year"

Extracts from a Statement by M. G. R. Sandberg, C.B.E., Chairman



Financial Highlights

	1982	1981
Share Capital and Reserves	102,873	92,034
Profit for the year after taxation	20,653	14,232
Dividend Paid	12,000	7,500
Total Assets	1,578,634	1,228,455

- General The Bank continued to make solid growth during 1982, a year in which the world recession as well as the conflicts in the Lebanon and on the Iran/Iraq border had an unsettling effect in the Bank's main area of operation.
- The Bank's consolidated after-tax published profits rose to £20,653,000 compared with £14,232,000 for 1981. The dividend paid to the parent company, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was £12,000,000 (1981 - £7,500,000).
- The consolidated capital and reserve accounts now total £102,873,000 compared to £92,034,000 at 31 December 1981.
- Competition in the banking sector became noticeably stronger as the impacts of tighter trading conditions and a larger number of banks coincided. The growing maturity of local banking institutions is having a marked effect on the financial scene throughout the Middle East and it is predictable that this trend will continue.
- At the same time banks with an established and trusted presence backed by an international network are increasingly benefiting from their capacity to provide services outside the Gulf, as well as serve the local retail needs of their customers.
- The British Bank of the Middle East, as part of Hongkong Bank, is progressively extending the range of its services in close liaison with other members of the group, especially in the areas of merchant banking and insurance. It is also devoting

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table with 2 columns: Company Name and Financial Data (Year, Pretax profit, Turnover, Dividend). Includes British Vending, Toxide Group, Druck Holdings, Sunbeam Wolsey, Thomas Walker, Cookson Group, Photo Me International, Green Bank Industrial Holdings.

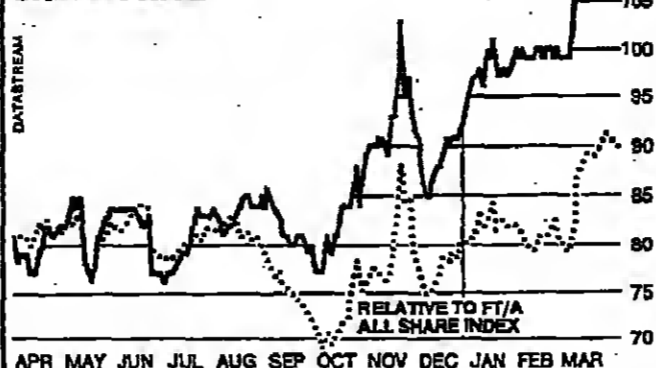
WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including company names, share prices, and volume. Includes AMF Inc, IBM, Alcoa, etc.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Sally White

City finds Ladbroke a good bet

CRODA INTERNATIONAL SHARE PRICE



Ladbroke Group Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £36.2m (£32.8m) Stated earnings 19p (21.6p) Turnover £762.0 (£705.2) Final dividend 4.3p mkg 8p (7.43p) Share price 201p 11p Yield 5.6%

Ladbroke produced £36m pretax profit last year. That might look more than some analysts were going for, but when one deducts the £2.1m premium for the granting of an underlease...

Ladbroke says that group trading should be good again this year, helped by the brighter climate for consumer spending and the expected rise in tourist trade.

A rise to £40m pretax profits this year could be possible, and the well-covered dividend should be increased as usual.

Nevertheless, Croda has not done badly, with profits for last year up by nearly half just over £15m. This year should see them rise above £20m...

Croda International, the specialist chemicals group, has missed the forecast by rather more than the pretax figure. After extraordinary items of £1.2m, earnings fall short of paying for dividends.

Wm Morrison Supermarkets Year to 28.1.83 Pretax profit £8.8m (£7.6m) Stated earnings 8p (10.1p) Turnover £225m (£198m) Net final dividend 1.15p mkg 1.6p (1.4p) Share price 174p Yield 1.3%

Supermarket group Wm Morrison has begun to develop a less conservative image through acquisition and expansion. It was the addition of floor space which helped to increase profits last year...

While adding to sales, all this mop up the capital which produced a useful £353,000 interest receivable, and require borrowings of a yet unquantified amount...

Morrison has been widening the product ranges with fresh food now accounting for quite a substantial part of sales. This will help margins.

Profits before tax could rise this year to around £10m, a performance not reflected in the prospective price earnings ratio of 16.4.

The share price has been depressed recently by a large lull of stock that the market took time to digest, and thus Morrison is looking undervalued.

APPOINTMENTS

Robens to be company president

Lord Robens, who is to retire as chairman and director of Johnson Matthey in July, is becoming president of the company. Sir E. R. Hewitt, managing director, has been nominated chairman in his place...

Mr R. O. Davies, managing director, Thomson Travel, Mr M. D. Knight, company secretary, International Thomson Organization, and Mr M. S. Mander, managing director, International Thomson Publishing have joined the board of International Thomson Organization.

Sir Donald Barron, chairman of Midland Bank, has been appointed chairman of The City Communications Centre. His predecessor, Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays Bank, has become chairman of the board of Babcock International.

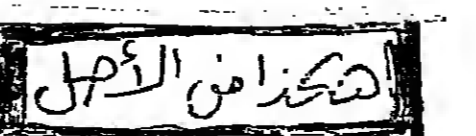
Mr Christopher A. Bloomfield, Mr Robin C. Holliday and Mr Robert L. John have been appointed to the board of City Bank.

Mr J. A. R. Macphail has been elected chairman of the Scotch Whisky Association.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including SUGAR, WHEAT, RUBBER, COFFEE, SOYABEAN MEAL, and LONDON COMMODITY PRICES. Includes columns for price, change, and volume.

Large table of financial data, likely a continuation of the Wall Street section, listing various companies and their financial metrics.





# The man who taught economics with humour

George Schwartz, who died over Easter, was the best loved of economic columnists. He was born in 1891 and in his own words, he "started to study economics when this part of the world went so well that none of my friends had heard of the science. Economics. What are they?"

When he switched from academic life to journalism in middle age, most people thought they knew. Schwartz reminded them, with a simple humour grounded in deep knowledge of the laws of supply and demand, the value of market prices, enterprise and sound money. These two columns seem as relevant today as when they were written 23 years ago.

## Luddite Smoke

May 21 1950

A new machine, introduced as an experiment into a London tobacco factory, can cut and pack 1,500 cigarettes a minute in one process. Normal production of machines now generally in use 850 cigarettes a minute.

"We do not," said Mr Percy Belcher, general secretary of the Tobacco Workers' Union, "want to interfere with progress or with more efficient methods of production, but unless the workers in the factories get something out of the new methods - their share of the profits - we are not prepared to see

these methods introduced without some kind of a fight."

That, although somewhat belligerent, sounds reasonable. But is it? On the assumption that the cutting and packing is of the same standard as previously, the change represents a 76 per cent increase in productivity on that process. Who is responsible for this and to whom should the benefit accrue?

I can appreciate that the claim of the inventor to have contributed to the result is incontestable. I can appreciate the contribution of the people whose savings financed the construction and installation of the machine. But in respect of the people directly operating the machine I would want to know in what way their particular activities are affected.

Would they be required to exert any more foot-pounds of energy? Would they be required to furnish any

energy, or whatever it may be, of brain skill? The job might even be rendered easier, in which case brain logic would suggest a reduction, not an increase, in wages.

Does an increase in productivity brought about solely by the machine invariably provoke a demand by the associated worker for increased money remuneration on the grounds of equity? If a chauffeur-driven owner gets a new and faster model does the chauffeur immediately react "That means we shall cover more ground a day. I want a rise"?

It is quite likely that he will tell his employer affably: "Well, sir, I was getting a bit tired of the old cough-and-sput, begging your pardon, but that's what the other fellows called it. I was thinking of leaving, but now that you've got this spanking Flying Comorant, I'm staying. If ever you

think of getting a Sizzling Buzzard I don't mind taking a five bob cut-to help out. They're a bit expensive."

Or take that estimable lady who does for one in the home twice or thrice weekly. Hitherto she may have gone on her hands and knees to polish the floor. If you treat yourself to an electric floor polisher does she immediately step up her claim from 2s. 6d. an hour to 3s. on the ground that she is now enabled to cover more of the house per diem? It is much more likely that she will hail the relief of her limbs by embarking on a medical history of the Binks family, including the obstetrical details which, in my case, always induce a profound queasiness.

For which particular workers in the tobacco industry would Mr Belcher claim a cut into the profits derived from the new machine? Would he confine it to the people directly operating the machine? What about the

machine minder? What about the warehousemen who deal with the faster flow of output? What about the typists in the office, who, after all, are in the firm?

The fact is that the invention is a cost-reducing innovation, and the ultimate result - under competitive conditions, the speedy result - should be the diffusion of the benefits over the community at large following the repercussions on the price of cigarettes. On Mr Belcher's thesis I could stake a claim for using the lift at the office. I calculate it gives me five minutes more at my desk per day. Something like 20 hours over at the year. The firm must make a profit out of this extra working time obtained through the lift installation. Remind me to walk slowly upstairs in future and to sit doing nothing until my heart stops thumping.

## Off the Rails

June 18 1950

The *Railway Review*, the official organ of the National Union of Railwaymen, very sharply, and quite properly, takes me up for the article entitled "Luddite Smoke" that I wrote here four weeks ago. In it I contested the assumption that the workers directly concerned with the operation of a new and more efficient machine (a cigarette-making machine in this case) were forthwith entitled to increased monetary remuneration as representing their claim on the increased productivity.

The *Review* was, perhaps justifiably, not impressed by my argument and

regarded my examples and analogies as far-fetched or irrelevant. It dismissed these summarily and very sensibly seized on a passage which, it declared, approached the real problem.

I had written: "The ultimate result (of this cost-reducing innovation) - under competitive conditions the speedy result - should be the diffusion of the benefits over the community at large following the repercussions on the price of cigarettes."

The *Review* fairly retorts with this challenge: "The deadly truth of the position is, however, that none of the suppositions in this phrase has anything to do with reality. Competitive society never worked to that end - if it came about at all, then it happened through the exclusion and at large, the workers concerned... Why - one might ask - has competitive society never tried to introduce legislation to safeguard the achievement of those ends, so often declared by its protagonists as being the real ones, i.e.,

that of diffusing the benefits of progress over society at large? The answer is, of course that a society in which the means of production are privately owned does not and cannot work like that."

Now it is remarkable that this should appear in a railway publication. The railway has been the stock example of an invention the benefits of which were diffused over society at large in a swift, almost revolutionary, manner. The illustrations are so commonplace that, for fear of banality, I hesitate to quote them. If all the railways of the world were torn up tomorrow would the standard of living of the ordinary workers be affected? Or would it suffer a catastrophic fall?

We used to hear these things in the kindergarten. Teacher would take out a box of matches and explain that Queen Elizabeth with all her power could not exercise such command over fire. The ordinary worker can buy a suit today

and preen himself. "Not Solomon in all his glory..." A working girl can pull on a pair of silk stockings and feel sorry for the Queen of Sheba. The benefits of the invention of artificial silk have not been diffused over the population at large? Brother, you've led a sheltered life.

But this diffusion is not a matter of centuries, but of decades, even years. The trade unions are always complaining that cost-of-living indices are not of date because they do not include new products absorbed and established into the ordinary household budget. Get the White Paper on the Interim Index of Retail Prices which was substituted in 1947 for the old cost-of-living index, and compare the list of 1914 items with the new list - radio sets, cycles, prams, sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, electric and gas heating and cooking appliances, all the legitimate prerogative of the working-class purse. That's a lift-up from tallow candles and black woolen stockings.

With all respect to the *Railway Review*, its argument can be reduced to the farcical. In 12 million homes of Britain people can switch a knob and listen to a voice emanating from heaven knows where. "My friends, most of you are excluded from the benefits of invention and innovation. You are the victims of a hold-up attributable to capitalist malignity. Were it not for that you could hear what I am saying. We are now switching you over to Sydney for a running commentary on the Test Match."

Thousands of Britons have served out East and seen poverty at its starkest. I know their reaction. We wouldn't put up with that. "The correct comment?" "Why don't we in Britain have to put up with that?" "Will the writer in the *Railway Review*, who calls himself 'Economist', please live up to his pseudonym by answering that?"

**Industrial notebook**

### When is success not a success?

Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipyard which gave the world the *Camberra* and (albeit briefly) the *Titanic*, has been bailed out by taxpayers' money for so long that it is hard to remember the last time it stood on its own two feet. Despite nationalization and £200m of Government aid since the end of the 1940s, the 6,000 jobs that remain of the post-war workforce of 23,000 are - at £8,000 or so a man each year - among the most heavily subsidized anywhere in the country.

It was, therefore, not without some irony a few days ago that assorted guests from Belfast, the oil industry and the press gathered in the famous yard for the "naming" of a new oil tanker called *British Skill*. Her sister ship, one of four that British Petroleum is having built in British yards and which Harland and Wolff is due to deliver by the end of this year, is being called *British Success*.

For ships that are being built at a loss for an owner who does not really want them, this nomenclature is splendidly quibotic. If not downright absurd. Only last summer, BP was announcing the scrapping of a third of its tanker fleet on the now familiar grounds that Opec and recession have turned the giant crude and product carriers into expensive and obsolete white elephants.

It is impossible not to be pessimistic about Harland and Wolff's prospects. Tankers are the yard's speciality and nobody sees oil demand rising much, if at all, over the rest of

the century, although replacement orders will be coming through in some numbers by the end of the decade. In the short term, the yard has nothing on its books beyond the spring of next year, although Mr John Parker, the new chief executive, is hopeful that he can win a £70m order from Blue Star to see him through until 1965.

Inevitably, more jobs will go at Harland this year, but it will still be a major surprise if the Government does anything but bail out the yard again when this year's financial arrangements are announced in the coming weeks. Losses for the year just ended are likely to be at least as big as the 1951-52 figure of £26m.

But Harland and Wolff remains the largest single employer in Northern Ireland, and it is an election year. Were, importantly, Mr Parker can - and undoubtedly will - wield the economic spin-off argument that helped to save British Leyland.

One £25m BP tanker may have lost the country a few million pounds in subsidies, but it enabled Harland and Wolff to place £22m of orders with 550 suppliers, 90 per cent of them British. They at least were kept afloat.

The real tragedy for the shipbuilding industry is that the problem is an international one that will be solved only by international cooperation - and there are precious few signs of that.

Jonathan Davis

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1952-53	1951-52	Company	Price	Change	%	1952-53	1951-52
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	133	-	6.4	4.8	7.8
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	149	-	10.0	6.7	-
74	57	Airgroup Group	62	-	6.1	9.8	17.7
46	31	Armstrong & Rhoads	31	-	4.3	13.9	3.5
314	197	Bardon H&B	214	+2	11.4	3.6	13.2
132	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	138	+1	15.7	11.3	-
270	210	Candover Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-
84	52	Deborah Services	52	-	6.0	11.5	3.4
94	75 1/2	Frank Horsell	94	-	-	7.8	8.4
52	50 1/2	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	52 1/2	-	8.7	5.4	10.3
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9
55	34	George Star	34	-	-	9.1	5.9
109	74	Ind Proc Carriage	78	-	15.7	10.1	-
158	100	Int Conv Pref	158	-	7.5	5.3	4.4
143	94	Jackson Group	142	-	9.6	4.7	14.8
203	111	James Burrough	150	+2	20.0	13.3	1.6
250	148	Robert Jenkins	150	-	5.7	8.3	9.8
83	54	Serations "A"	69	-	11.4	10.2	5.0
107	112	Torday & Carbal	112	-	9.6	1.8	-
29	21	Unilock Holdings	25 1/2	-	6.4	9.8	4.6
85	84	Walter Alexander	85	-	17.1	8.6	4.0
270	214	W. S. Yates	261 1/2	+1	17.1	8.6	4.0

Prices now available on Printed, page 481-46

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BCCI	10 1/2%
Consolidated Cash	10 1/2%
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Lloyds Bank	10 1/2%
Midland Bank	10 1/2%
Nat Westminster	10 1/2%
TSB	10 1/2%
Williams & Carter	10 1/2%

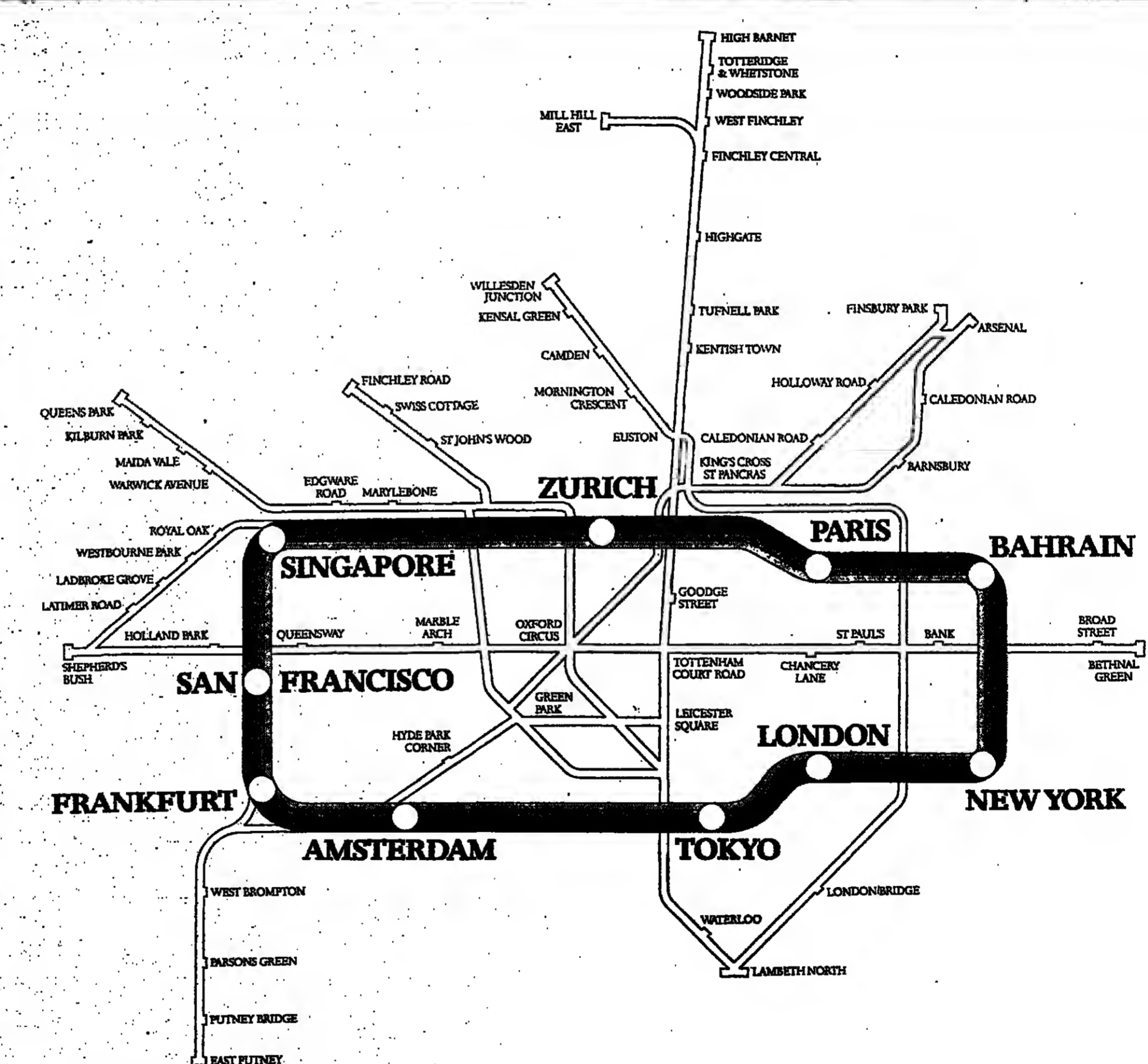
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GOLF: OPENING ROUND OF 70 FOR FIRST BRITON

Faldo the early bird gets flying start before big guns can fire

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent, Augusta Nick Faldo, the first of four British golfers on the tee, made a fine start to the Masters today. He completed his round in 70 strokes, two under par for the 36 holes, and was the only one to finish with a score of 70.



Faldo: Masterful control of first-tee nerves

The treacherous passage of Amen Corner now loomed before him, but he came sailing through with yet another birdie. He played a brave tee-shot at the 13th, skirting the trees on the left so closely that it was only three or four yards clear of the infamous Rae's Creek. The hole measures only 465 yards but is rated a par five here, because the Creek demands a carry to the green.

TENNIS

Pecci the slayer of the boy wonders

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Lisbon

The David and Goliath story went all wrong to the Portuguese champions yesterday. Jimmy Arias, smashing seven times more than three stone to Victor Pecci, who is also nine years wiser, was beaten 7-6, 6-2. Moreover, Arias was fined more than £200 for what is copy described in the rules as "an unbecoming attitude".

World Cup echoes ring round Europe

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Almost half of those who attended the world summit meeting in Madrid last July are expected to gather again during the main European conference to discuss the World Cup against Argentina, which is set to be held in Mexico in 1986.

Football: ABERDEEN IN LAND OF GIANTS

Stunned by the Scottish storm

By Hugh Taylor

The highest compliment to Aberdeen following their devastating 5-1 victory over Walschell in the first leg of the European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final at Edinburgh, came from stunned Benfica coach, Eric Kinnear, who said: "No one in Europe could take four goals off Aberdeen. It will be two or three years before I can have my team able to play in that kind of fashion."

BOXING: THE HIGH-FLYING BUGNER AND THE LANCASTER BOMBER

Lamb with the claws of a wolf

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

If the bone-crushing handshake of the soft-spoken Alan Lamb is any indication, Clive McKenzie will be in for a battle in defence of his British light-welterweight title tonight at Liverpool Stadium. Lamb's hands are firm-hard and the challenger intends to keep jabbing his left into McKenzie's face all night.

BOXING: THE HIGH-FLYING BUGNER AND THE LANCASTER BOMBER

A Russian ring of confidence

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Bangkok (AP) - The Soviet Union enter the semi final round of the 16-man King's Cup amateur boxing tournament here today as clear favourites to win the tournament. The defending champions have earned 12 points, with six boxers through to this stage.

Card of course

A table listing names and statistics for a tennis tournament, including names like Tom Watson, Nick Faldo, and Jimmy Arias.

Welsh Sunday date

Wales will stage Britain's first ever Sunday international when they meet Brazil on June 12.

Wales will stage Britain's first ever Sunday international when they meet Brazil on June 12. The pre-tide friendly will have a Spring-kick-off. It was the only convenient day to fit in with Brazil's European tour.

Hrubecsch: leading light

Hrubecsch, who drew 1-1 in San Francisco, have so far scored 13 goals and conceded merely four.

Hrubecsch, who drew 1-1 in San Francisco, have so far scored 13 goals and conceded merely four. Nor are echoes of last summer confined to the European Cup competition. In the Scottish Premier League, Hrubecsch is leading the list of goalscorers.

Lion with the jaws of a shark

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Warren, the manager of Joe Bugner, took the first solid step yesterday to put the former British and European heavyweight champion into the world's top 10 and back on the road to a title bout with Larry Holmes (Srikanth Sen writes). Mr Warren signed up Randy (Tex) Cobb, said to be rated world No 17, to come in London to fight Bugner and place his ranking at stake for a "very large sum of money".

McKenzie: plenty in hand

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Copenhagen (AP) - Eyyup Can, the young Turkish flyweight who is at the centre of a controversy in Denmark, had his final bout, making his professional debut dashed when the promoter, Mogens Palle, withdrew him from his tournament. Can was scheduled to meet Antonio Garcia of Spain tonight.

Serving up a recipe of discipline

By Lewis Blair

Where so many of the other more advanced nations have found it difficult to handle the up-and-coming competitors, Surrey's Shelley Walpole has shown an iron discipline in disposing with three youngsters on his way to the semi-finals of the senior hard court championships, sponsored by Prudential, at Wimbledon.

Pele and Beckenbauer back US

Washington (AP) - International soccer celebrities Pele and Franz Beckenbauer and Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, are coming to the aid of the United States Soccer Federation's bid to stage the 1986 World Cup.

Washingon (AP) - International soccer celebrities Pele and Franz Beckenbauer and Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, are coming to the aid of the United States Soccer Federation's bid to stage the 1986 World Cup. The International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) have today said the applications of the United States and Canada are decided to consider only Mexico as host country. All three bids will be submitted to FIFA's executive committee, but only Mexico's will be studied in advance.

Best's renewed vigour

By Paul Newman

George Best soon made up for lost time when he returned to Bournemouth yesterday for training. Best, who has missed two third division matches during his week's absence, was put through a rigorous training session and then volunteered for extra work after other players had gone home for the night.

SQUASH RACKETS

UK players in last 16

By Richard Eaton

It was a splendidly English day yesterday. Two younger home players, Jamie Hickox and Christy Willstrop, came through to the last 16 of the British Open squash championships, sponsored by Davis and Tate, with two others, David Pearson and Martin Bodinade, who had unexpected wins the day before, attempting to join them.

HOCKEY

Creating a new record

Kuala Lumpur (AFP) - A record 368 players and 46 officials from 23 countries, together with 30 international women umpires and a dozen senior officials from the International Hockey Federation (IHF), will take part in the 15-day championships here on Sunday for the World Cup and Intercontinental Cup.

WEDNESDAYS RESULTS

A table listing sports results for Wednesday, including football, tennis, and other events.

FOR THE RECORD

A table listing various sports records, including American baseball, national league, and other sports.

SNOW REPORT

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Upper range complete, mid cover of snow on a firm base. Middle range complete, snow now on the lower range. Lower range complete, snow now on the lower range.

RACING

Walwyn success bodes well for Bonum Omen

By Michael Seely

Once again Fulke Walwyn has stolen the show at Aintree. This time it is the 4-year-old gelding who has done it, and yesterday the 72-year-old Welshman hammered home the point by landing a double with Everett and Burtis...



Down and out: Ballyhampshire falls at the Chair in Tiepolino's race

Saxon Farm to collect again

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

With £12,000 added to the sweepstakes the Edward Courage Memorial Hurdle is the most valuable race at Liverpool today, on this the second day of the annual Grand National meeting at Aintree. It is being run for the first time in memory of a man who epitomized that which is good in National Hunt racing...

National's loving words

By Dick Hinder

A timely reminder of just how important the Grand National is to the nation comes from the publication of Long Day's Journey into Night by John Hughes and Peter Watson. The book is a well-balanced collection of stories and anecdotes from the world's greatest steeplechase.

Second day of the Liverpool meeting

Tois Double 3 10, 4.15. Treble 2.35, 3.40, 4.45. [Television (BBC1) 2.35, 3.10, 3.40, (BBC2) 4.15 races]

Table of race results for the Liverpool meeting, including 2.35 HOLIDAY INN INTERNATIONAL CHASE and 3.10 EDWARD COURAGE HURDLE.

Liverpool results

Table of race results for the Liverpool meeting, including 2.0 MONKSFIELD HURDLE and 4.15 BRITISH BEEF COMPANY CHASE.

Devon & Exeter programme

Table of race results for the Devon & Exeter programme, including 2.15 WILLE WUMPKINS HURDLE and 2.45 TORBAY CHASE.

GOLF

Watson's again go out on first day

By Peter Ryde

There cannot be a team of any long standing in the Halford Hewitt tournament that has not suffered a first round defeat at some time or other, but when one of the most successful players goes out on the first day two years running, it is surprising even in this tournament.

YACHTING

Broadhead makes up his lost time

From Barry Pickhall, Rio de Janeiro

As mine from the original 17 starters in the single-handed round the world race prepared for the final leg from Rio de Janeiro on Sunday, the BOC race committee announced yesterday that they have deducted six days and one hour from the elapsed time of Britain's Richard Broadhead.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Extension denied

By Keith Macklin

The first and second division seasons will officially end on April 17 and April 24 respectively, despite appeals by several clubs for extensions. The Rugby League council, meeting in Leeds, decided against extending the seasons...

CRICKET

MCC go for new blood

By Michael Coleman

England's attempts to rebuild their Test attack will start with the MCC's match against Middlesex, the county champions which opens the first season at Lord's from April 27-30. The Association of bowlers in the team are Nick Cook, Dijk Patel, David Thomas and Kevin Emery.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Home discomforts

By Michael Coleman

The international modern pentathlon events for men and women, provisionally planned to take place in London in June, will have to be abandoned unless a generous sponsor is found within the next fortnight. If that happens, then British athletes will be competing in the women's world championships, run the risk of not being invited abroad in future.

SWIMMING

Easter races six times against Dutch

By Michael Coleman

Paul Easter is going to spend a busy weekend in Blackpool later this month. The Coventry-based Scot has been selected for six events in Great Britain's first team to meet the Netherlands on April 23-24. Easter, a 19-year-old student, swims in the 100 and 200 metres freestyle, the 400 and 800 metres individual medley, and both freestyle relays.

SNOW REPORTS

Table of snow reports showing depth, conditions, and weather for various locations like Andermarkt and Courmayeur.

Liverpool selections

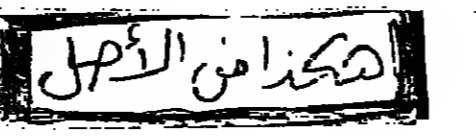
By Michael Phillips

2.0 Forgive N' Forget, 2.15 Annetta Duke, 3.10 Saxon Farm, 3.40 Military Band, 4.15 Ryebar, 4.45 Lucybar.

Pontefract results

Table of race results for the Pontefract meeting, including 4.45 BARBARIC HANDICAP and 4.55 SPRING STAKES.

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RUGBY UNION: FRENCH TOUR TO SOUTH AFRICA BLOCKED

Ban adds to the England dilemma

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

Yesterday's decision by the French government to ban sporting contact with South Africa...

France were scheduled to play seven matches, including two internationals, on their short tour to South Africa...

The four home unions have mixed feelings on the advisability of touring South Africa...

Assuming there were to be no change of election which might place between now and next year...

The French government have not yet disclosed what measures they would take against any sports federation...



Melville has until May 7 to confirm his fitness

Injury does not stand in the way of Melville

By David Hands

Nigel Melville had been appointed captain of the England under-23 party...

Melville damaged his left ankle in February and suffered further injury in training at Stourbridge...

Two of the three wings are Trick and Barry Evans, two of the quickest players in the country...

ironically, received barely three decent passes between them during the trial game...

Evans, Trick, Dun and Brian Moore, the Nottingham hooker...

Two of the three wings are Trick and Barry Evans, two of the quickest players in the country...

Rugby in Wales

By Gerald Davies

Make Sevens more festive

This weekend, Melrose will celebrate the centenary of the sevens game...

Twickenham is well catered with other distractions to ensure that spirits remain above a certain level...

The widespread installation of floodlights which allowed for the increase in the number of matches played...

Schools rugby

By Michael Stevenson

High grades in French examination

half Fletcher's goal kicking could hardly have been more impressive...

Schools rugby

By Michael Stevenson

A few miles further north Pocklington enjoyed a mixed season at first XV level...

These were the best sides of a season whose form proved strangely variable...

Schools rugby

By Michael Stevenson

Those of who watched the clinical demolition of France in an 18 group international at Gosforth...

Prime City rents should break through the £40 a sq ft barrier within the next two years...

The report suggests that office buildings in the heart of the Square Mile will be commanding rents double that of suburban areas...

While no other building has yet attracted a tenant willing to pay as much as that, it is now believed the Japanese electronics giant, Hitachi...

Against this background many observers find it difficult to understand how rents in the central core can continue rising while there is such an excess of space...

Rents are still rising in the City

banks, ensures the continuing international importance of the City, says the report.

There has been a marked trend over the past decade towards fewer but larger office buildings...

Since 1966 employment has fallen steadily from 267,330 to 220,000 in 1981...

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

several shop units. At the rear of one of the sites Rockfort has planning permission for a further 6,800 sq ft of new office accommodation.

Phoenix Properties and Finance has sold half its Swindon development site to the Prudential for £1.6m.

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

the highest of any inner London borough at £16.25 a sq ft. This compares with £15.30 in the City and £11.90 in Holborn.

Phoenix Properties and Finance has sold half its Swindon development site to the Prudential for £1.6m.

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

This week's announcement that the Greater London Council is to buy the Courage Brewery site on the South Bank...

But the GLC's £2.5m purchase price falls well short of the £6.5m asking price.

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

Reading-based Rockfort, headed by the energetic former footballer Mr Roger Smees...

Mr George Nicholson, vice chairman of the GLC planning committee standing amid the dereliction of the 7.5 acre former Courage Brewery site on London's South Bank.

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BUSINESSES FOR SALE HIGH PROFIT CATERING BUSINESS FOR SALE Turnover in excess of £30,000 per week.

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BANGOR BUSINESS For sale as a business opportunity...

A GOOD Newspaper Business will be found in the Midlands...

MODERN FACTORY WAREHOUSE 12,000 sq ft...

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W2 (Off Edgware Road) No premium, 24 hr. access, Prestige firm, carpeted offices...

ISLE OF MAN No Corporation Tax No Capital Gains Tax No Inheritance Tax...

SUPPLY SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT POST OFFICE APPROVED P.M.B.X. SWITCHBOARDS...

NORTH OF THAMES MINUTES FROM THE MANSON HOUSE Overlooking the Thames...

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COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY NORTH LONDON BUSINESS CENTRES Light industrial and Commercial premises...

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

6.00 Cerefax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic details in a daily promotion for telecast.

tv-am

6.00 Daybreak with Gavin Scott followed by Good Morning Britain at 6.30 presented by Nick Owen and Angela...

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street 10.30 Science International 10.35 The Postcode Film, Australia's Great White Series 11.30 Film Fun.

Toni Basill returns with Tape 2 (BBC 2, 9.00pm)

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods. Resonance and Damping 6.30 Chemistry Poisons That Paralyse...

CHANNEL 4

3.05 Film: For Me and My Gal (1947). The bells are ringing again for Gene Kelly...

Radio 4

6.00 News briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day...

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.05 News. 7.08 Morning Concert: Tippett, Gibbons, Bridge, Finzi records.

Radio 1

6.00 Adrian John with The Early Show. 7.00 Mista Head. 8.00 Simon Bates...

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore. 7.30 Terry Wogan. 10.00 Jimmy Young. 12.00 Sports White Noise...

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsweek. 6.30 The Art of David Burrows. 7.00 World News. 7.05 Twenty Four Hours News...

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 883kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m...

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ENTERTAINMENTS

BARBICAN MALL. ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE. From 10.00am to 10.00pm daily.

CONCERTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. 10.30. Concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra...

THEATRES

ALBERT. 8.30. The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas. 8.55. The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas...

AMERICAN THEATRE

AMERICAN THEATRE. 8.30. The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas. 8.55. The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas...

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Police searching the man who gave himself up, while Patrick Beecher, aged 12, who was held hostage for 22 hours is led away.

### Boy safe as police end siege of flat

From Ronald Kershaw, Leeds  
A seige in which a man allegedly held a boy aged 12 hostage for more than 22 hours ended at lunchtime yesterday when police officers entered a house in Lupion Avenue, Harehills, Leeds, and led out the boy, Patrick Beecher, of Leeds.  
The police said in a statement: "A man has been arrested in connection with the incident at Harehills. Both the man and the boy are uninjured, indeed no one was hurt in the incident."  
"The attitude of the police has been one of quietly negotiating with the man. That has led to a successful conclusion."  
Armed police had surrounded the house since lunchtime on Wednesday. No shots were fired. The man, wearing a black leather jacket was led from the house, spread cagled in the road, searched and taken away in a police van.  
Superintendent Peter Smalley had made several visits to the

### SDP leaders told to clarify policies

By John Winder  
The leadership of the Social Democratic Party comes in for implied criticism in a leading article in its own party newspaper, *The Social Democrat*, published yesterday.  
The article, unsigned, but generally believed to be written by party headquarters to have been written by the paper's editor, Mr Roger Carroll, who was on holiday, and unavailable for comment yesterday says that Social Democrats are entitled to look to the party leadership for strong, clear, unfused formulations of policy.  
Earlier in the article, the writer says that the alternative to spelling out clear policies, on the contentious issues as well as on the easy ones, is to allow Mrs Margaret Thatcher to paint the SDP as a soft option.  
The article is headed: "The truth" followed by: "Where the SDP goes from here." "Here" is Dartington where the by-election underlined a serious problem for the SDP, according to the writer: the volatility of

the polls in general and of their support in particular.  
The body of support which sticks to the party through thick and thin is not enough to win elections. They need also to attract the more mercenary body of opinion turned off by the old parties and cautiously ready to turn to the SDP - but only says the article, if they harden their message and express it in terms that relate to electors' lives and hopes.  
"When we give them a bland or negative message they are all too likely to drift back to their old Labour or Conservative allegiance."  
The writer calls on the party to spell out the Social Democrat vision in popular terms. That would involve some hard choices, for example on defence and on the market economy.  
The council elections next month are seen as an opportunity to crank up the election machine and to show the electorate that the SDP is more than a television party.

### Return of the Keren

Continued from page 1  
Seaman's union leaders clashed with the Government last night over ministerial hints that the Armed Forces could gain be used in industrial disputes of the kind involving the Keren (Paul Routledge writes).  
Mr Jerry Wiggin, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, said in a radio interview: "We are going to get on with our job and do what we have to do". Asked whether he would take similar action again, he said: "I think you can take it that we will keep the armed services going."  
"I do not think it would be right to imagine for one second that the armed forces in any sphere of activity, particularly where welfare or security is at stake, are going to be pushed around."

### MPs favour June poll

Continued from page 1  
The Institute argues that the Government should not restrict its reforming zeal to the "not so important and understandably popular" proposals debated in the Green Paper.  
The feeling among Conservative MPs that an election in June is most likely to give the best possible result was gaining ground last week as they left for the short Easter break.  
During this week, many of them will be sounding out their constituency party leaders and if a strong feeling shows that local parties are ready for the fray, well organized in the constituencies which have been most heavily affected by boundary changes, and confident of winning, then pressure may well be put on the Prime Minister next week to decide on an early poll.

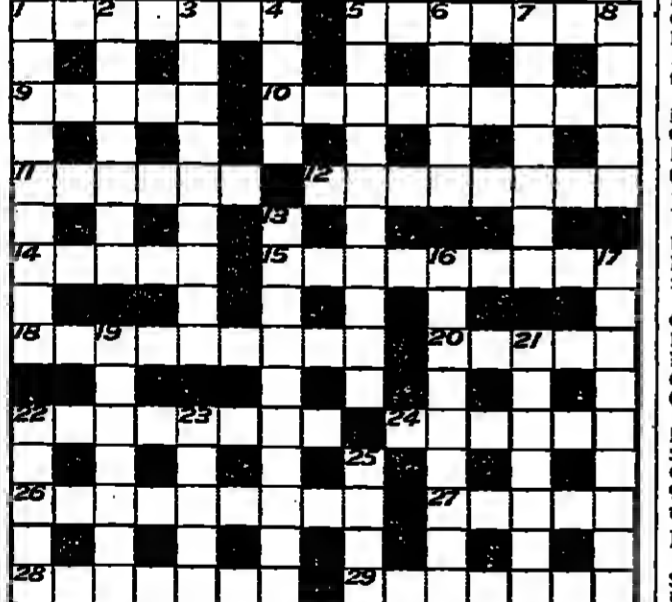
### Letter from Moscow Videos, with love from the West

The image on the screen is blurred and grainy, but you can just make out Marion Branda making somebody an offer they cannot refuse. His voice, however, and the voices of all other actors in *The Godfather*, are lost underneath a 'dubbed' translation into Russian, read by an actor from one of Moscow's leading film studios - illegally.  
With the curtains drawn, and a frisson of excitement in the small audience crowded into the living room, this might be the showing of a blue movie somewhere in a jaded Western suburb. In fact, it is the advance wave of the video revolution, which has made a limited impact on the lives of Moscow's privileged elite.  
Few ordinary Russians have seen a video cassette recorder. They are not available for hire, and although the Soviet Union is beginning to manufacture them, they are prohibitively expensive, up to 10,000 roubles, or four year's salary for the average worker.  
Most of those who can afford videos prefer to buy imported Japanese models. Mostly on the black market. Customers include top Soviet officials (and their privileged offspring), and rouble-rich illegal entrepreneurs, many of them from the southern republics of Georgia and Azerbaijan, where illegal trading is practically a way of life.  
The main problem is getting hold of cassettes. Western films, such as *The Godfather*, *Apocalypse now* and *A Clockwork Orange* are among the forbidden fruits, as the newspaper *Sovietskaya Rossiya* has revealed.  
There is also a steady demand for pornography. Most Western films with even a mildly erotic content appear pornographic by prudish Soviet standards, but many video owners want the "real thing", which nine times out of ten turns out to be *Emanuelle*.  
*Sovietskaya Rossiya* recently disclosed that Moscow police had cracked a ring of illegal traders in Western cassettes. The underground video entrepreneurs had smuggled Western video equipment into Russia, and used it to reproduce pirated copies for the flourishing black market. They had hired leading actors and translators to supply a Russian soundtrack, and had sold the results for up to 200 roubles a cassette (above the average monthly wage). The report said more than 50 people had been charged with "purveying pornography."  
There is no doubt the authorities are worried by a limited video invasion. Last December General Vasily Fedorchuk, then head of the KGB secret police and now Interior Minister, introduced a new law in the Supreme Soviet tightening up regulations on the importing of films and video, and instructed border guards and customs officials to be "extra vigilant in their search for material "harmful to the moral health of the nation".  
The new regulations were so zealously applied that they affected the work of Western television companies operating in Moscow. American television networks, including CBS and NBC, were recently told that even routine material recorded in the Soviet Union would have to be examined in full by customs officials at Moscow airport.  
The United States protested that it was an imposition of censorship and a violation of the Helsinki agreements. The practice has now stopped and the Russians are turning a blind eye to their own regulations, much to the relief of American correspondents, since the careful screening of video tapes by Soviet officials takes several hours.  
The main worry of the authorities is not only that the moral health of the nation will be undermined by *Emanuelle*, but also that Western ideas, political, social and cultural, will creep insidiously into Soviet life through films, documentaries and television shows recorded on video.  
In the West it is called the information revolution, but in Russia information is something to be restricted and controlled, not disseminated at the push of a button.  
Richard Owen

### Today's events

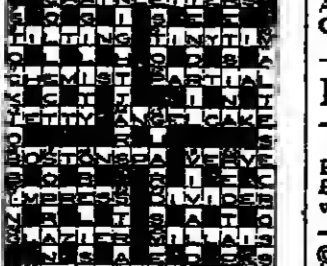
- Drawings and paintings by John Pickling, Colin Jellicoe Gallery, 82 Portland Street, Manchester: Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (from today until April 23).
- A Distant Prospect: aerial photography to the past 125 years. Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Colliergate, York: Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun and Mon (from today until May 7).
- Sports Photographer of the Year exhibition, RPS National Centre of Photography, The Octagon, Millers Row, Bath: Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45, closed Sun (from today until May 14).

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,098



- 1 Fish pot left in the straw (7).
- 5 She's written article about sex appeal (7).
- 9 Roadhouse where carousers dropping round spend the night (5).
- 10 Vermin found in bird and fish (4).
- 11 Protective clothing for sight-fighter, say (6).
- 12 Such a scandal involving Irene Adler (8).
- 14 Little Mary has one daughter Mayan up (5).
- 15 Fish can change direction, may be (9).
- 18 Caught up, say, outside the Common Market for service item (6-3).
- 20 Order of Imperial Russia (5).
- 22 A luck's chance, the tempest abating (8).
- 24 11 expresses rising disgust (6).
- 26 I drink to North London borough (9).
- 27 Love-note changed her colour (5).
- 28 Surt of Army order (7).
- 29 Submits to rudeness, perhaps - there's no end to it (7).

### Solution of Puzzle No. 16,097



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

### The pound

Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.73	1.81
Austria Sch	27.00	25.20
Belgium Fr	76.50	72.50
Canada \$	1.48	1.36
Denmark Kr	13.50	12.90
Finland Mkk	8.60	8.10
France Fr	11.32	10.77
Germany DM	3.79	3.59
Greece Dr	133.00	122.00
Hongkong \$	18.50	17.95
Ireland Pt	1.19	1.14
Italy Lira	222.00	212.00
Japan Yen	379.00	359.00
Netherlands Gld	4.25	4.05
Norway Kr	11.25	10.65
Portugal Esc	156.00	147.00
South Africa Rd	1.82	1.65
Spain Pta	206.90	197.00
Sweden Kr	11.76	11.16
Switzerland Fr	4.75	4.50
USA \$	1.56	1.50
Yugoslavia Dnr	126.00	114.00

### Roads

London and South-East: M11: Northbound carriageway reduced to one lane N of new M25 intersection at junction 6 near Theydon, Essex. A496: North Circular Road reduced to one lane eastbound across Angel Road bridge Edmonstone. A308: Roadworks at Sunbury Road at Hampton Road, Hampton, Middlesex.  
Midlands and East Angles: M5: Southbound lane closures between junctions 3 (Quinton) and 6 (Warndon), Hereford and Worcester. M40: Road closed for sewer construction diversions. A1: Lane closures at Alconbury and Conington, Cambridgeshire.  
Wales and West: M5: Lane closures between junctions 10 (Cheltenham) and 11 (Cirencester). A49: Temporary signals at Abersoch, Gwynedd. N Wales: A55: Roadworks at Conwy Bridge, Gwynedd.  
North: A506/A59/M57: Grand National meeting at Aintree racecourse, Liverpool: extra traffic on approach roads. A1: Lane closures at Boroughbridge, N Yorkshire. A49: Temporary lane closures at Forest Road, Torquay, Cheshire: diversions signposted.  
Scotland: A98: Lane closures on Forth road bridge: no vehicles over 4 foot 6 inches wide permitted; diversions for wide loads. M8: Lane closures between junctions 26 and 29 (Hillingdon and St James). A82: Great Western Road, Glasgow, closed to carbound traffic for sewer repairs.  
Information supplied by the AA.

### Food prices

The wide range of apples in the shops includes new season's Cape Golden Delicious at 35 to 45p a pound. Dumms Seedlings 38-42p. Gravenstein for this 32-35p. English Idareds 18-30p and Cox 30-45p. Bananas are slightly dearer at 32-42p a pound because of hurricanes in Colombia and Honduras and rubbers is slightly dearer at 24-30p a pound due to colder weather. Strawberries from the Mediterranean are available from 55 to 90p a punnet - cheap for this time of year. Those from the United States are up to £1.80.  
Cauliflower is still expensive at 55-60p each due to cold weather, but there are many alternatives: all varieties of cabbage range from 8 to 25p a pound, and parsnips, turnips, carrots and swedes, from 8 to 20p.  
There is quite a choice of lamb this weekend, not just between English and New Zealand but between last season's and this year's. Sainsbury's home produced spring lamb at £1.94 a pound for leg and £1.29 for shanks is excellent value for this time of year - some shops are selling the old lamb at 30p a pound more. Pork legs at Presto range from 78p to £1.08 a pound and Sainsbury have a special price of £1.39 for chops, and 99p for leg and boneless shoulder. There are beef bargains at many stores: Sainsbury's have reduced some cuts by 10p a pound, and their back and top ribs by 20p.  
Fish prices have eased a little after the peak Easter period. There should be some large cod filets at around £1.15 a pound and haddock at £1.25 for 1lb fresh, mackerel should be available for under 50p a pound.

### Anniversaries

- Births: John Lennon, horticulturalist, Cambsburg, Lanarkshire, 1783; Harry Craik, physician, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, 1869; Mary Pickford, Toronto, Canada, 1893.
- Deaths: El Greco (Doménikos Theotokopoulis), Toledo, 1614; Earl Arzel Karisfide, poet (Nobel laureate), 1931, Stockholm 1931.

### Weather forecast

A complex low pressure area covers the British Isles.  
6 am to midnight  
London, East Angles, Central S. E. NW, Central N England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, showers developing, some heavy and prolonged, wind SW, moderate, max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).  
SE England: Any rain soon clearing, sunny intervals but showers developing. Wind W to SW, light to moderate, max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).  
Channel Islands, SW England: Showers and sunny intervals, becoming generally cloudy during evening; wind W to SW, light to moderate, max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).  
Wales and West: Sunny intervals, some heavy and prolonged, wind W, light to moderate, max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).  
Ire District, Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argy, Northern Ireland: Fog patches soon clearing, sunny intervals, scattered showers developing; wind variable, light; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).  
NE England: Borders Edinburgh, Dumfries: Sunny intervals and showers, some heavy and prolonged; wind variable, light; temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).  
Aberdeen, Moray: Sunny intervals, showers developing; wind variable, light; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).  
Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, a few showers developing; wind variable, light; temp 5 to 7C (41 to 46F).  
Notes for the weekend: sunny intervals and showers, heavy and windy in places, but perhaps a longer period of rain over S Britain; rather cold with a veer north and fog in places.  
SEA PASSAGES: North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind SW, moderate, becoming fresh; sea moderate, English Channel (SE), St George's Channel: Wind SW, veering W; fresh; sea moderate. Irish Sea: Wind variable, light, becoming NW, moderate; sea moderate, or fresh; sea slight to moderate.

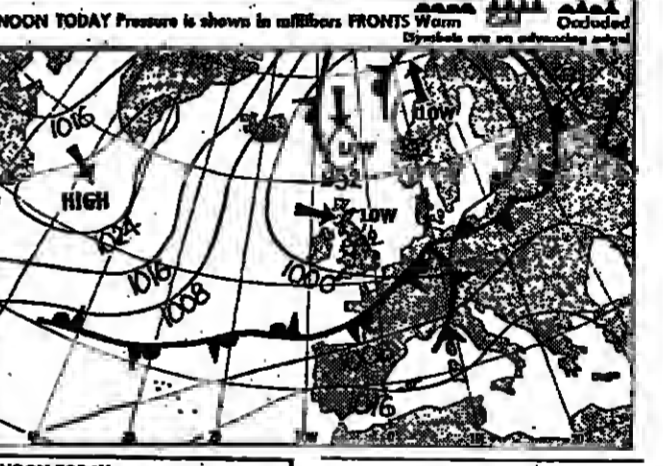
### The papers

Commenting on Treasury figures showing that only families with weekly incomes above £58.59 pay less tax than before the Taxes came into power, the Daily Mirror says: "It is a story as old as politics: the rich get richer and the poor get poorer."  
The Ethiopia Famine Appeal, organized by the Disaster Emergency Committee (The British Red Cross Society, Cadef, Christian Aid, Oxfam and The Save the Children Fund) has now raised nearly £250,000. This will be used to provide food, water, medical supplies and shelter for famine victims in Ethiopia and surrounding regions.  
Donations may be sent to: The Ethiopia Famine Appeal, PO Box 999, London EC3A 1HA.

### Top films

- Top box-office films in London: 1) Gandhi 2) Local Hero 3) Table for Five 4) The Verdict 5) Heat and Dust 6) An Officer and a Gentleman 7) The Missionary 8) Robin Hood
- The top five in the provinces: 1) Gandhi 2) Local Hero 3) The Dark Crystal 4) An Officer and a Gentleman 5) The Boys in Blue
- Compiled by Screen International

### Weather forecast



### High tides

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11:28	5.6	11:48	5.6
Aberdeen	11:02	5.2	11:22	5.4
Ayr	10:58	5.3	11:18	5.5
Belfast	10:48	5.2	11:08	5.2
Birkenhead	10:52	5.4	11:12	5.4
Bournemouth	11:08	5.5	11:28	5.6
Cardiff	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5
Cardigan	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5
Cardiff Bay	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5
Cardiff Bay	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5
Cardiff Bay	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5
Cardiff Bay	10:58	5.4	11:18	5.5

### Around Britain

City	Sun	Rain	Mic.	C	F
Scarborough	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
Edinburgh	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
Birmingham	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
Birmingham	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
Birmingham	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny

### Around Britain

City	Sun	Rain	Mic.	C	F
Cardiff	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
Cardiff	10.3	12	8	48	Sunny
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